

THE AMERICAN

20c • JUNE 1966

LEGION

MAGAZINE

IF WE SHOULD LEAVE VIETNAM ... THEN WHAT?

by Gerald L. Steibel

LIGHTNING
ON THE PROWL

•
A NEW LOOK AT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

•
THE STORY OF
"OLD IRONSIDES"—
AMERICA'S MOST
BELOVED FIGHTING SHIP

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LEGION

Magazine

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EDITOR'S

CORNER

THE VIEW BEYOND ONE'S NOSE

THIS PAST April we saw the smartest move of a huge American institution in many a year. The U.S. auto makers asked Uncle Sam to set standards for car safety.

Their move was as unusual as it was smart. Big institutions are noted for not seeing farther than the ends of their noses when the need for change presses upon them from the outside. They tend to resist and resist and resist—for years, even decades. They resist when they should, but they also resist when it's stupid to do so.

The auto leaders must have set some sort of a record in ending their resistance within a few weeks of their being publicly clobbered by the question of auto safety.

Here's what was smart about their swift turnaround:

1. If the government sets basic car safety standards, each auto maker may be sure that his rivals will have to build the same safety into their cars as he does in his own. In the past, because the public never gladly paid for safety engineering, Brand A could undersell Brand B by leaving out the safety (with its accompanying cost to the consumer) that Brand B might want to offer.

2. In the future, the government, not the industry, will take the beating if car safety standards cause another rhubarb. The industry need only obey to meet its responsibility.

3. The foreign cars sold here—a thorn in the side of the U.S. firms—will have to meet the same safety standards as our own makes and charge for them. The American makers could never force the foreign cars to meet their standards if they policed their own industry. But the government has the needed power to bring the foreign cars into line in the U.S. market—and can hardly permit them to ignore safety features required of our own industry.

By asking for government controls our car makers may escape both the onus and the competitive headaches of safety engineering, while yet doing the job. If that isn't in line with their own and the public's interest, what is?

Right in our own field of veterans affairs we have just come to the end of one of the far more typical cases of institutional short-sightedness. The life insurance industry, as an institution, has won a “victory” over veterans' government life insurance, and thereby neatly cut its own throat.

For years the insurance industry opposed a one-year reopening of all WW2 and Korean veterans insurance. A reopening would have given close to 20 million veterans a one-year deadline to revise their insurance planning. The proposal would simply have given the veterans a grace period for taking out more insurance—up to the \$10,000 statutory limit—which was denied them when their right to increase their GI insurance was abruptly

withdrawn away back in the early 1950's.

The insurance industry opposed the reopening so successfully that for years it got nowhere. Finally, last year, the veterans were tossed a bone in the form of a one-year reopening that was so restrictive that barely more than 200,000 applied (mostly uninsurable at regular rates), of whom less than 100,000 were actually granted new insurance. By and large, the only vets who could take out new insurance were so disabled that the private firms didn't want their trade. It was a good thing for a limited number of disabled veterans, but as a substitute for a general grace period it wasn't even an excuse.

The reopening period expired in May. May it rest in peace.

By its effective lobbying against a grace period for *all* WW2 and Korea vets, the life insurance industry bit off its nose to spite its face.

He who knows anything about selling knows that an excuse for getting your foot in the door is *everything*. It is so much everything that sales organizations (including life insurance) sweat themselves into frenzies of inspiration to invent the most far-fetched excuses to get their men on the vestibule side of the customers' front doors.

An honest-to-God *reason* for a citizen to let an insurance salesman into his house to counsel him on revising his family protection is manna straight from heaven for an insurance sales staff. Or should be.

What better bona fide reason for countless veterans to open the door to their insurance brokers than a government deadline requiring them to make a new insurance decision within the year or lose an opportunity? Most veterans, like most people, are underinsured. As inflation keeps cutting the value of their policies they become progressively more underinsured. Most veterans would still be underinsured even after taking out the maximum veterans insurance allowed. The insurance salesman who couldn't demonstrate that to them—given a solid excuse to break down the front door—isn't worth his salt. In fact, if he can't demonstrate that, he has nothing to sell.

We can't begin to guess the vast sales that the insurance industry kissed off when it threw away the best door-opener it is apt to see in this century, when it elected to oppose a general one-year reopening of GI insurance.

With nothing personal to gain except fairness to the veterans, we fought for the reopening. We lost. So be it.

If we get a general reopening at this late date, it would benefit the veterans little. They are so much older that their premiums on new government insurance today would hardly be the bargain they'd have been if they'd gotten their grace period back when it was due them. We are now at the point where about the only interest that could benefit significantly would be the private insurance industry. Therefore we are inclined to let them fight for it alone, should they wake up to the potential profit they've been missing. Meanwhile, here's a toast to the auto industry for knowing where its true interests lie.

RBP

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters published do not necessarily express the policy of The American Legion. Keep letters short. Name and address must be furnished. Expressions of opinion and requests for personal services are appreciated, but they cannot be acknowledged or answered, due to lack of magazine staff for these purposes. Requests for personal services which may be legitimately asked of The American Legion should be made to your Post Service Officer or your state (Department) American Legion Hq. Send letters to the editor to: Letters, The American Legion Magazine, 720 5th Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019.

RUSSIA'S ANTI-COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND

SIR: The feature article of the April issue, "The Underground Moscow Fears Most," by Eugene Lyons, was most interesting and informative. Let us hope that this article will be picked up by other publications so that it may enjoy the largest audience possible throughout the country. At a time when Russia is attempting—by open as well as subtle and covert means—to "condition" America to communism via socialism, it behooves us all to give moral and financial support to any respectable organization which encourages a desire for real freedom among the Russian peoples.

MALCOLM E. IVEY
Macon, Ga.

CONSUMER GYPS IN THE U.S.A.

SIR: You are to be commended on your recent article, "The Top Ten Consumer Gyps in the U.S.A." by Jack Pearl (April). This should be of great value to many people, saving them considerable anxiety and heartbreak.

RODNEY SHAW, Director
Dept. of Economic Life
General Board of Christian Social
Concerns of the Methodist Church
Washington, D.C.

SIR: The article should really do a lot of good. . . .

J. J. VALENTINE
Memphis, Tenn.

SIR: "The Top Ten Consumer Gyps" was quite an eye opener.

VALDO A. MIRALDI
Colmar, Pa.

SIR: I commend you on your article on consumer gyps. It offers a concise picture into the different routines of the con artist. The schemers, particularly those who take \$100 million from the \$10 billion the innocent public donates to charity each year, should have their crafty plots unveiled.

THEODORE MOIRATES
Hollis, N.Y.

SIR: I recently finished the article by Mr. Jack Pearl on the top ten consumer gyps in the U.S.A. I thoroughly enjoyed it and feel it would be a distinct service to enable the entire village of Portland, Mich., to enjoy it also.

I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Portland Chamber of Commerce and we are interested in acquiring four thousand to five thousand reprints of this article to mail directly to the people of Portland. I feel an article of this type would be a great help in decreasing the number of families taken in by these schemes.

CHUCK MINKLEY
Portland, Mich.

AMUSING ART

SIR: The cartoons in support of the article "The Top Ten Consumer Gyps in the U.S.A." (April), and "America Is Guilty of Everything—True or False?" (May) were as delightful as the articles were interesting. I hope to see more of such inviting and amusing art in connection with your important editorial matter. I might add that they smell suspiciously of the flavor of that successful and zany American satire periodical, Mad Magazine. If so, I can only say that you know a good thing when you see it.

G. L. BUTCHER
Los Angeles, Calif.

Artist Bob Clarke is, indeed, one of Mad's regulars.

BALLPLAYERS' YOUTHFUL MEMORIES

SIR: I enjoyed John Devaney's "Youthful Memories of Big League Ballplayers" (April). One of the things that has always plagued me was whether the American Legion baseball program for youngsters is, in its design, a big league farm school or a genuine program for all youngsters who wish to participate. I felt that the amazing host of big leaguers who had graduated to the major leagues from our program certainly expressed values in our program for all youngsters rather than a purely professional outlook. It was heartening to see how most of their memories of their years in the Legion program were memories of things that make boys grow rather than things that only make professional athletes.

J. R. WHITE
Bronx, N.Y.

0515, DECEMBER 16, 1944

SIR: I defy anyone to have been closer to the German attack in the Ardennes than an I & R patrol from Co. E, 109th Inf., located on the Our River in southern Luxemburg at 5:00 a.m., December 16, 1944. Our sergeant said: "Let's get out of here—it's [the little village on the Our River] loaded with Germans," at exactly 0515, when their artillery barrage opened up as we were returning to Platoon Hq., located in Fuhren, Luxemburg.

We held one and one-half days and were told later, after release from *Stalag IVB*, that captured German timetables called for them to go through in one and one-half hours. Without the 28th Div., there would have been no 101st at Bas-

togne. The Germans would have held it on the 16th, before the 101st arrived.

The only member of Co. E, 109th, to avoid capture on the 17th was one of the platoon sergeants who was back at Division Hq being fitted with Size 13 shoes!

JOE FREDRICK
Louisville, Ky.

NEW "VIETNAMS" IN LATIN AMERICA?

SIR: We have just received the March 1966 issue, which contains the article "New 'Vietnams' in Latin America?" The article states that in 1965 the Guatemalan Minister of Defense was assassinated. It was the Vice-Minister of Defense who was assassinated. The Defense Minister (also the Chief of State) is Colonel Peralta and he is very much alive.

ROMEO J. ROUTHIER, Adjt.
Guatemala Post No. 1
Guatemala City, Guatemala

MARYLAND'S AID TO VIETNAM

SIR: In the story on Vietnam in your April issue ("Maryland Example," page 30), you say: "The American Legion of Maryland has been channeling cash support directly through the U.S. Marines. . . ." So that your readers may fully understand our part in the Vietnam Civic Action Program, I am happy to inform you that we expended approximately \$15,000 in direct aid before the National Legion program started. Since then, Maryland contributions through Nat'l Hq. (listed on page 31 as \$388.25 as of March 4) have risen to \$1,025.25.

DANIEL H. BURKHARDT, Adjt.
The American Legion Dept. of Maryland
Baltimore, Md.

PRO AND CON

SIR: As chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Anderson Council of Women (membership, 2500), let me thank you for the help we have received from your monthly coverage of information concerning Federal legislation news and for the Pro and Con pages. Please never discontinue these most informative features. Your magazine for men is rapidly becoming a favorite among women.

ZELNA DAVISSON
Anderson, Ind.

SEEKS INFO ON PT BOAT SURVIVORS

SIR: I'm seeking information about the 11 survivors of a PT boat sunk in World War 2. The men managed to stay afloat 53 hours by means of a nine-foot tender, a craft so small that they took turns in the water, hanging on to the gunwale while the others were inside. (Recently, I inquired of the company that built the tenders. It replied that its knowledge of the incident is limited to the fact that a company representative, in attendance at a boat show, met an unidentified visitor who told the story and said he was a survivor.) I would like to hear from anyone who can help me put together the story of the incident.

GEORGE W. BRAGDON
106 Broad Street
Wethersfield, Conn. 06109

5TH DROUGHT YEAR AHEAD?

REDS THREATEN THAILAND.

OUR LATIN AID.

DATELINE WASHINGTON



With the populous, highly-developed Northeastern segment of the nation suffering from drought, Sec'y of the Interior Stewart L. Udall early this year issued an advisory warning to state and local officials of 12 Northeastern states to prepare for a possible fifth summer of drought, and to take steps to conserve available supplies.

Trouble is that the Northeast sector simply isn't getting sufficient rain to meet its ever-growing requirements. Last summer a substantial part of the East Coast suffered its longest and severest water shortage on record. Reservoirs feeding all major coastal cities were at critical lows.

While even Congress can't do much about the weather, the Government is spurring activities toward finding new sources of water through desalting plants, cleaning up polluted rivers and by regional planning. There's expectation that nuclear power plants can desalt water at a reasonably low cost.

The Pentagon has taken Red China's word for it that Thailand is next on the Communist's Southeast Asia list--after South Vietnam or sooner.

Some months ago, Peking gave its official blessing to a guerrilla organization aimed at initiating and conducting a Viet Cong type of operation in Thailand. In response, the Defense Department is beefing up its military assistance to that country.

"Thailand faces an immediate and growing threat of subversion and insurgency, sponsored by Hanoi and Peking," Secretary of Defense McNamara recently warned a Congressional committee. "By virtue of its geographical position, it is also exposed to the danger of attack from conventional military forces. . . ." Red guerrillas are already active in Thai's northeastern provinces bordering Laos.

After five years, the Alliance for Progress program for Latin America is still involved in controversy, but the fact is that some substantial achievements have been made with the \$5 billion in aid to date. The Agency for International Development (AID) lists the following examples of accomplishments among the 19 Latin American countries helped:

Construction of some 300,000 houses, 14,000 miles of roads, 2,000 wells and 1,770 potable water-supply systems; training of 160,000 teachers; granting of 600,000 credit loans covering some 3 million farmers; anti-malaria protection for 100 million people; circulation of 14 million school books; school-lunch programs for 16 million children, and the operation of 1,200 hospitals, health centers and mobile medical units.

According to AID officials, the Latin American countries are carrying a good share of the load, and "the region as a whole is meeting its commitment to provide the bulk of the financial and human resources required to carry out Alliance objectives."

PEOPLE AND QUOTES:

DISSENT, BUT OBEY

"We are free to disagree with the law, but not to disobey it." **Richard Cardinal Cushing**, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston.

OUR DEFENSES

"We must not be misled by the fallacy of the nuclear stalemate into the complacent and fatal belief that we have won the battle for strategic superiority." **Gen. John P. McConnell**, Air Force Chief of Staff.

POLITICAL NOTE

"I don't buy the idea . . . that labor needs the Democratic Party. I'm sure that it is the other way around." **AFL-CIO President George Meany**.

THE WONDERFUL, TERRIBLE AUTO

"No other necessity of modern life has brought more convenience to the American people—or more tragedy—than the automobile." **President Johnson**.

BUT WHO'S BOSS?

" . . . I am still President, Supreme Commander, Congress Mandatory, Great Leader of the Revolution, Prime Minister and Others. . . ." **President Sukarno** of Indonesia.

BRITAIN TODAY

"History is fine, but a country should not live in its past or off its past glories." **Edward Heath**, leader of British Conservative Party.

INSIDE VIETNAM

"What we are supporting is the Government of South Vietnam. We are not trying to dictate who should be in charge of that Government." Under Sec'y of State **George W. Ball**.

U.S. ENTERPRISE

"Nowhere in the world does a business system provide more amply for all of the people." Under Sec'y of Commerce **Leroy Collins**.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Should We Be Firm Or Soft In Asia?

By NATIONAL COMMANDER

J. Eldon James

IN A MAJOR ARTICLE in this issue, Mr. Gerald L. Steibel, of the Research Institute of America, explores the question: "If we should get out of Vietnam . . . then what?" It is on page 8. Mr. Steibel limits himself to the events that could be expected to follow an American withdrawal from Vietnam, based upon today's facts of life in Asia and around the world. He faces up to the fact that the Vietnam struggle is part of a global war, which has openly been declared by the Communists. He notes that it is easy for people with no responsibility to urge our leaving Vietnam without facing the question: "Then what?"—but that none of our last three Presidents has dared treat that question "as if there were no tomorrow."

Because Mr. Steibel deals with today's world as it is, he does not involve himself with theoretical solutions in Asia which have been put forth, as choices for the U.S. to follow, by some noted American scholars.

The choices that Mr. Steibel sees for us if we leave Vietnam are chiefly:

(1) To continue to fight the global war in other places, with nothing actually having been solved by leaving Vietnam but much having been lost, or

(2) For the United States to retrench its world position and revert to the isolationism that ended in the United States just before WW2. He does not propose this, but cites it as one of the roads open to us if we leave Vietnam, or

(3) He sees a third possibility. Our leaving Vietnam could prove such a disaster that it might awaken the rest of the free world to more unified and more militant stands against Communist ambitions, as the Nazi march on Poland and Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor united the free world against Hitler and Tojo. The risk here is that a worldwide showdown has in it more of the threat of world war than the limited confrontation in Vietnam. Global showdowns were disasters in 1914 and 1939. Vietnam is thus seen as something like our own "Munich," where the penalties for backing out could be worse than for standing fast.

All of this omits a choice seen by some American scholars which is attractive because it would be a lovely solution if it worked. These scholars dismiss the "Munich" parallel and claim that the Red Chinese position of aggressiveness is only a response to *our own* inflexibility in their part of the world. They say that Communist aggressiveness would take a face-saving out if the United States would make the first conciliatory move. They say that we should be big enough to back off in some way that would show that we don't seek conquest. What these scholars offer is a promise that things would quiet down in Asia (though there would still be a lot of harmless bluster) if the United States would only show some flexibility.

I cannot argue academic points with Asiatic scholars who

know more than I do about the fabrication of Oriental social and political theory. If I could believe them, I would be in the forefront of urging some original conciliation, however embarrassing, on the part of the United States. If things would thereby simmer down in Asia the whole world would breathe more freely. My own son could stop looking forward to combat duty when he reaches that age, and the sons of my friends could come home from Vietnam now.

But before I accept their solution I must do what the President of the United States must do. I must ask myself what the chances are that these scholars are right, and what will happen if they are wrong. If the Red Chinese are intransigent *without respect to American flexibility*, then the "Munich" parallel is correct. If we back off we will leave holes open which they will simply gobble up. We will encourage them, as Chamberlain encouraged Hitler, in the belief that we are afraid, and that if they get tougher they can gobble much more. Every lesson of our times says that in such a situation conciliation encourages aggressions which, in the end, leave no choice but major war. Is that the situation?

Not being an expert on the so-called Oriental mind (there are Oriental minds and American scholars on both sides of this fence), I can only turn to experience. The theory that a soft approach will soften Red China was tested before and failed.

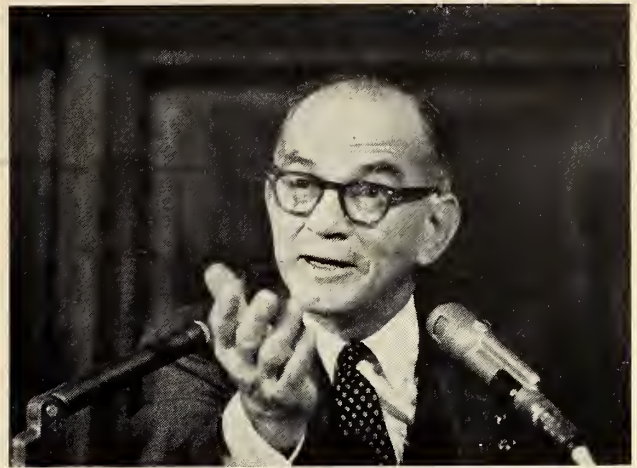
When the Communists took the mainland of China from Chiang Kai-shek and drove him and two million refugees to Taiwan in 1949, our record was that we had supported Chiang in his fight against the Reds. The United States did not, of course, immediately espouse the Communists. Nevertheless, we accepted the fact of the defeat of our friend in the struggle. Our diplomatic corps did not follow Chiang to Taiwan, but remained on the mainland to establish such relations as they could with the Reds. We did not guarantee to defend Taiwan, militarily, as we do today. In July 1949, Secretary of State Dean Acheson delivered a huge paper to President Truman accepting the Red victory, forswearing further U.S. interference with the Reds on the mainland, pledging that we would look to the UN to settle further aggressions in Asia. He went so far as to say that U.S. policy would seek to protect Red China's independence.

Though mainland China was in the hands of a power we had opposed, Acheson said that our policy would continue to be based "on our respect for the UN Charter, for our friendship for China, our traditional support of the Open Door, and for China's independence and territorial integrity." This public paper, "United States Relations with China," was so conciliatory and so flexible that it has been called the "waiting for the dust to settle" policy.

The Free Chinese on Taiwan took it to mean that we had



U.S. firmness will show Red China that it can't "redraw the boundaries of the world by force," State Secretary Rusk tells



Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Chairman William Fulbright (above) complained that that's "inflexible."

abandoned them as lost and were ready to come to terms with the victor. If what Red China needed was a sign from the United States, this was it.

What happened? We left our diplomats in China, but the Reds drove them out. After they seized the American Consulate General in Peiping, President Truman felt it necessary, on January 14, 1950, to withdraw all American consular officials from Red China. Two days before he did so, Mr. Acheson gave the Red Chinese further assurance of our peaceful intentions. On Jan. 12 he publicly spelled out a U.S. "defense cordon" in Asia which left both Taiwan and Korea outside of areas in which the U.S. would intervene militarily.

Taiwan, then as now, was a thorn in Red China's side. When Mr. Acheson declined to guarantee its security for the second time—even as we were being forced to pull our diplomats off of the mainland—this was an act of conciliation toward Red China.

We had been responsible for the liberation of both halves of Korea from Japan. We had occupied the South, then withdrawn, and were still giving it economic aid. We had consented to the Communist occupation of the North. We had already announced that we hoped that Korea's dividedness would be solved eventually by the United Nations.

In disclaiming further responsibility for the military protection of South Korea, Mr. Acheson again made a conciliatory gesture toward Red China in the face of provocation. It earned him nothing but grief thereafter. The Communists simply took him to mean that South Korea was now ripe for the picking. On the 25th of June Red troops invaded South Korea. The result was the third major war of this century.

That is the history of American flexibility in Asia in our time. In every laboratory test, the theory of softening our approach flunked. We paid an enormous price in money and lives for testing it. It is entirely conceivable that if we had said in advance that we *would* do what we *did* do in Korea, the war there might not have happened. We cannot prove that inflexibility would have spared us a major war, but we know that flexibility did not.

The Korean war, in which American conciliation was construed as weakness, is the jump-off point of the whole Asia situation today, and of our present military posture in the world. The dominant role of the Korean experience in the world today seems to be the most-ignored fact of modern times. Our honeymoon with Chiang Kai-shek on Taiwan dates to the Korean episode. With the Red betrayal of the WW2 settlement in Korea we threw our protective arm over

Taiwan. Perhaps young draft-card burners have not been taught that our large scale peacetime draft dates to our failed experiment in being flexible with the Red Chinese. The rebuilding of our military power after our WW2 demobilization is a direct result of Korea. The softer Soviet line relates to it. Our first small intervention in Vietnam, though few people remember it, dates to Korea. Our Vietnam stand today is but a continuation of the stand that we were forced to take in Korea when flexibility failed.

Of course, if things in China are now different that should not be dismissed. What is different?

Again, Korea is the landmark. The Soviet Union and Red China were equally guilty of the Korean episode. They had equal hopes that they could go to war and steal some more people and land without major power interference.

But if the Korean invasion was a shock to the rest of the world, its *result* was a shock to the Soviet Union. The Soviets learned that we *would* fight in such a case, and they reacted with a caution that they have seldom forgotten since. Out of that experience came Russian "peaceful coexistence." Though still practiced with nasty belligerence, it is an improvement over Soviet dreams of armed conquest of an unarmed world that preceded 1950 and led to her role in Korea.

What is different with Red China today? She scorns the Soviet Union for "peaceful coexistence" and has openly split with her for not being militantly intransigent in all things toward the United States and the free world. There is no sign of change.

Almost overlooked in the claims that we offer nothing but inflexibility is that even today the United States is repeatedly offering Asia's Communists contacts on a mutual basis that might some day lead to a two-way street without the humiliation of either side. We have offered exchanges of scholars, of newsmen, of doctors. We suspended bombing North Vietnam in order to get to the peace table. All approaches to meet on equal terms have come from us. All have been rejected out of hand. But we patiently continue. What we are *not* doing is surrendering first and talking afterwards, which is what the Reds demand.

Why, then, is there reason to believe that if we give ground now we will not reap the same old defiance and disaster? I would like to see reasons, based on experience, for again betting lives and fortunes on it. Vice President Humphrey recently said: "Aggression unchecked is aggression unleashed. If we have not learned that in the last 25 years we have learned nothing in this century." Twenty-two million American war veterans, living and dead, learned it the hard way.

By GERALD L. STEIBEL

AT THE TOP levels of government, the one point about the Vietnam war on which the Communist powers and the Americans see eye-to-eye is that it is not just a local or "civil" war but is the test case in a crucial global struggle. Three American Presidents have increasingly had to face that truth since 1954, while numerous homefront critics have avoided it.

Our anti-war pleaders usually hew to the line that the Vietnam war is an internal Vietnamese affair, a "family quarrel" that is no business of outsiders.

In this, they persist in a posture which the United States tried officially to cling to until it could do so no longer. President Kennedy was reluctant to admit openly that Vietnam is a battleground in a larger war, though he had no doubt that it was. He hoped, perhaps, that such reluctance would help contain the strife. But his straddling the issue appears in hindsight only to have postponed the awakening of the American people to the actual nature of the struggle and to have encouraged the Communists.

In his actions, Mr. Kennedy admitted that it was an outsider's struggle. He sent American troops to Vietnam as "advisors" in 1962. But in his words he pretended that it was a local struggle. He stressed that it was "their" war—meaning the South Vietnamese—and that it was up to them to win it. This ambiguity continues to run through American public thought.

To the Communists, Vietnam was never a local war. In 1961, Soviet boss Khrushchev publicly spelled out that the "war of liberation" in Vietnam "must not be identified with local wars" and that all Communists everywhere are in the "front rank" of this "sacred war."

The Communists responded to Mr. Kennedy's words as if they were a promise that, if they could only beat the South Vietnamese, victory on the first battlefield of the larger war would be theirs. Viet Cong attacks mounted in intensity, abetted by arms, men and direction from North Vietnam, and by arms and advice from Red China and Moscow. The Peking People's Daily in China said that the war was the "focal point of the international class struggle of this moment."

Gen. Vo Nguyen Giap, North Vietnam's Defense Minister, made the bluntest proclamation of all in 1964. He announced that South Vietnam was "the model of 'national liberation movements' of our time . . . If the special warfare that the U.S. 'imperialists' are testing in South Vietnam is overcome, then it can be defeated anywhere in the world." Nothing could make it clearer that in Vietnam a world war is being fought.

By April 1965, President Johnson had

IF WE LEAVE VIETNAM *...Then What ?*

the choice of accepting the reality and the challenge, or surrendering the first battlefield in a war that would not thereby end. In Baltimore he abandoned the "local war" fiction and faced the facts publicly. "There are great stakes in balance," he said. "Let no one think for a moment that retreat from Vietnam would bring an end to the conflict. The battle would be renewed in one country and then another . . . To withdraw from

The considerations which the President described as apt to produce a "battle renewed in one country and then another" flow outward from South Vietnam in circles within circles.

The first circle contains the scene of the present strife—Southeast Asia with its five-nation complex of North and South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand.

The second contains the Malaysia-

SOVOFOTO



Hanoi visitors (above) are welcomed in Peking by Red China's party functionaries.

one battlefield means only to prepare for the next."

From that moment on, the Vietnam war was joined by both sides, as it had been joined by the Communists all along, as a great power struggle of global import.

Having faced up to the true nature of the war, the question of withdrawing from Vietnam was then met by the President in the only context that the hard realities allowed—namely, how it would affect our position for better or worse in the larger conflict. Such considerations could be dismissed by anyone bearing no responsibility, but by nobody bearing any responsibility.

Indonesia-Philippines island cluster to the south and east, and the Burma-India-Pakistan continental nations to the west.

The third embraces our other western Pacific friends—to the north Japan, Taiwan and Korea and, far to the south, Australia.

The fourth circle embraces the rest of the world, with the psychological reverberations of a U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam echoing in virtually every nation, and with implications of immediate escalated violence in Africa and Latin America.

Let's put ourselves forward in time to "liberation from U.S. imperialism day." The United States, we will say, has just

A hard, factual look at the day after a U.S. retreat from South Vietnam



A U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam will put into motion the next stage of Red China's plans for Far East domination (see map): a sweep, encompassing Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Third stage: Australia and Korea. Similar unchecked ambitions of Japan 25 years ago, brought on World War 2.

withdrawn from South Vietnam. Let's skip the question: "Where did we go?" for a moment and see what's happening in North and South Vietnam and in the big Red capitals.

In Saigon, the Viet Cong is moving into the government offices. All resistance is ending. Around the countryside heads are rolling. The peasants are being organized in state farms and labor gangs. This much is simply the familiar pattern of Red conquests from Cuba to China. In North Vietnam, the militants around Communist Party chief Le Duan are rejoicing because their insistence on settling for nothing less than a complete win in the South has been vindicated.

IF WE LEAVE VIETNAM ...Then What?

The voices of doubt against the "war of liberation" as a form of Communist conquest are stilled. From Moscow and Peking go orders to apply the lesson with new vigor in Africa and Latin America. Russia has lost face in her quarrel with Red China, and must consider abandoning "peaceful coexistence" before she loses more ground for world Communist leadership to the victorious policies of warlike China. Meanwhile, back in North Vietnam there is little time for celebration. Unfinished business is pressing. While Saigon is still being absorbed, North Vietnamese regulars who have borne the brunt of the battle in South Vietnam are being pulled out and sent with their arms and supply trains into Laos. Non-communist Laotians look upon them with dismay as the conquerors who drove first the French, then the vaunted Americans out of Vietnam.

They go in force to help Laos' own "Viet Cong," the Communist Pathet Lao, to conquer the entire country.

These North Vietnamese regulars have been there before. Laos was North Vietnam's first choice for conquest right after the 1954 Geneva Conference supposedly "neutralized" it. With help and urging from the North, the Pathet Lao almost succeeded in cutting Laos in two by 1960. Only a show of U.S. naval strength in the Gulf of Siam in that year halted a Pathet Lao drive to the Mekong River. Had it been allowed to go all the way, Laos would have been cleaved across the middle and unable to resist the Reds any longer.

There was one more attempt to take over Laos—in 1962. Then Mr. Kennedy sent 5,000 U.S. Marines into neighboring Thailand, across the Mekong Valley, which is the key to the military defense of Laos.

It was this check in Laos which probably led North Vietnam to redirect the broader conflict into South Vietnam on the other side of the Mekong. Ever since then the morale of the Pathet Lao has sagged. With North Vietnamese arms, hard-core organizers and supplies redirected to Vietnam, defections and desertions among the Reds' guerrillas in Laos have gone up, spurred on by the pounding they have taken from the air by Laotian Government and American war planes.

LAOS



BLACK STAR



PHILIPPINE



The fall of South Vietnam will cue final "wars of liberation" to bring these nations into Red

All of this would change with our abandonment of Saigon. The Red bases are still intact in the northeast Lao provinces and the bulk of the power now directed against South Vietnam could flow across the whole eastern and northern borders of Laos. There's no question of the outcome. The Pathet Lao at its present low ebb is conceded a good chance of taking all Laos by arms if the U.S. did not stand in the way.

If the U.S. leaves Vietnam, the only conceivable defense of Laos would shift to Thailand. As Cambodia is presently unfriendly, we aren't going there.

U.S. forces in Thailand have risen to 13,000 combat men plus another 5,000 civilians in support. In theory these would be beefed up by American divisions leaving South Vietnam, and our

main anti-Red stand would be at the fall-back position in Thailand. None of the arguments presently advanced to get us out of Vietnam apply in Thailand. It has long been an independent nation (previously known to us as Siam). It was not part of French Indo-China, and it is the one land in the region that never became someone else's colony in the era of European imperialism.

But in practice, a plan to make a permanent stand in Thailand would never have a chance of starting if we leave Vietnam.

Thailand is a small power. It is ruled by men skilled in the most ancient and essential art of small powers—preserving its independence amidst the struggles of the Great Powers. This has called for a quick exercise of judgment on whom

THAILAND

© NORDISK PRESS PHOTO FROM PICTORIAL PARADE

of Laos to the Thai people, urging them to rise up in revolt against their rulers.

These pressures do not shake the Thai Government much today. But the sight of the U.S. abandoning its pledges to Vietnam would either drive the present Thai Government to make its own peace with the Communists, or expose it to overthrow by men who would. Any hope of re-establishing the stop-line against the Communists in Thailand would then be politically dead before it ever got off the ground.

The third member of this "package"—Cambodia—would be the least trouble of all for the Communists. Its ruler, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, long ago predicted that the Americans would never stay to the finish in Southeast Asia, and he has said that it is only a question of when, not if, he will end up as a vassal of Communist China. Like the Thai rulers, he plays small-power survival politics. Unlike them, his chips are on the Red Chinese rather than the Americans, and he has gone as far in his commitment to the Reds as the Thais have gone in theirs to us, winking at Viet Cong "sanctuaries" inside his borders, making ostentatious gifts of medical and other "humanitarian" supplies to the Viet Cong, and so on. His nation does not even need a "Liberation Front" guerrilla army to push it all the way into the Red embrace; Sihanouk himself will do that when and if the time comes. To leave Vietnam, then, almost certainly means to leave all Southeast Asia.

But the matter does not end with the inner circle in Southeast Asia that stops at the border of Malaya. It spreads outward from there indefinitely.

Just what power structure the Communists would devise among themselves to rule Southeast Asia to the Malaysian border isn't clear. They would have their own quarrels. What is clear is that the U.S. and the free world would be excluded. Nor is it clear how long it would take them to consolidate their power in the five-nation area, except that it would probably be quick and practically simultaneous. In any event, the new Red grouping would be a formidable thing in its own right. Communism would add to its present holding a half-million square miles with over 70 million people, with some of the best and most seasoned fighting armies in the world, and some of the richest food and mineral resources. With this huge gain in Communist power in Asia would come a blow to U.S. and free world prestige around the globe. The question of where the U.S. would next attempt to anchor would be compounded by a string of broken American promises that would give our best friends in the Pacific cause to wonder.

(Continued on page 38)



TOURIST & TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

PHILIPPINES



FPG

AUSTRALIA



China's orbit. Plans and machinery for toppling all of them are well advanced.

to ally with, and when. It meant, for example, making a speedy alliance with the Japanese when they came south in 1941, and abandoning it just as quickly when the western allies came back in 1945.

Thailand threw in its lot with the United States back in 1954. There are today few stauncher friends of the U.S. in all Asia than Premier Kittikachorn and Foreign Minister Khoman. But Kittikachorn has told his U.S. allies bluntly that Thailand's cooperation is wholly conditioned on the Americans taking the firmest stand against the Communists and maintaining it no matter what the difficulties. Small wonder! His present position is suicidal if we desert him. He has pledged Thailand's full resources to the struggle, including the stretching of

her technical status as a neutral to the limit. Those American warplanes which have been hitting the Pathet Lao, for example, have often taken off from and returned to airfields in Thailand.

But U.S. retreat from South Vietnam would cause an instantaneous crisis of confidence for the Thais that might prove fatal to the American position there. Physical pressure on the leaders in Bangkok (the Thai capital) has been mounting steeply over the past two years. Several hundred Red guerrillas have crossed the Mekong and are operating among the million Thais in the impoverished Northeast. A Red "Thailand Patriotic Front" like the one spearheading the aggression in South Vietnam was formed in Red China on January 1, 1965. Its "Free Thai" radio calls out

By JOHN W. BALL

LATE IN THE AFTERNOON of August 23, 1965, a typical summer thunderstorm in the Richmond, Va., area flicked out a bolt of lightning now and then, and growled ominous warnings. Few people paid much attention to the storm at this time, though. It had not started to rain, so why go indoors?

In nearby Chesterfield County, at 5:30 p.m., a contractor was tinkering with a heavy earth-moving machine in the back yard of a rural home. Two other men stood beneath a wire clothesline watching him. Nearby, an 11-year-old boy set his bare feet firmly on the dry earth sheltered by a sturdy walnut tree, then lounged across the handlebars of his bicycle, centering his attention on the proceedings at the big machine. At this rainless moment a lightning bolt hit the tree and leaped to the clothesline. In its wake the two spectators lay sprawled beneath the clothesline, unconscious and injured. At the foot of the tree the boy lay dead.

Hundreds of similar tragedies occur in increasing numbers in the United States each year. The National Safety Council and the Lightning Protection Institute of Chicago predict that the lightning toll, which has been steadily increasing, will continue upward in the years ahead. They offer two main reasons. First, we are offering lightning more buildings and more people as targets. Second, more and more persons don't bother to get out of thunderstorms, even though statistics show that two-thirds of all lightning victims are outdoors (often needlessly) when struck.

Recently, the Lightning Protection Institute made a close investigation of 500 reported lightning bolts that had caused property damage, death or injury. The dead numbered 137, the injured 117. To a man, the victims were exposed outdoors. Five were killed in the yards of

LIGHTNING on the Prowl

A certain modern contempt for lightning is increasing the annual toll of death and damage. Here's a look at what it is and does.

their homes. Thirty-one died while hiking, 18 were in fields, seven on golf courses. Twenty-seven were killed under trees and 17 in open boats. Fourteen were fishing when killed, 13 were camping out, four died while swimming and one while water skiing.

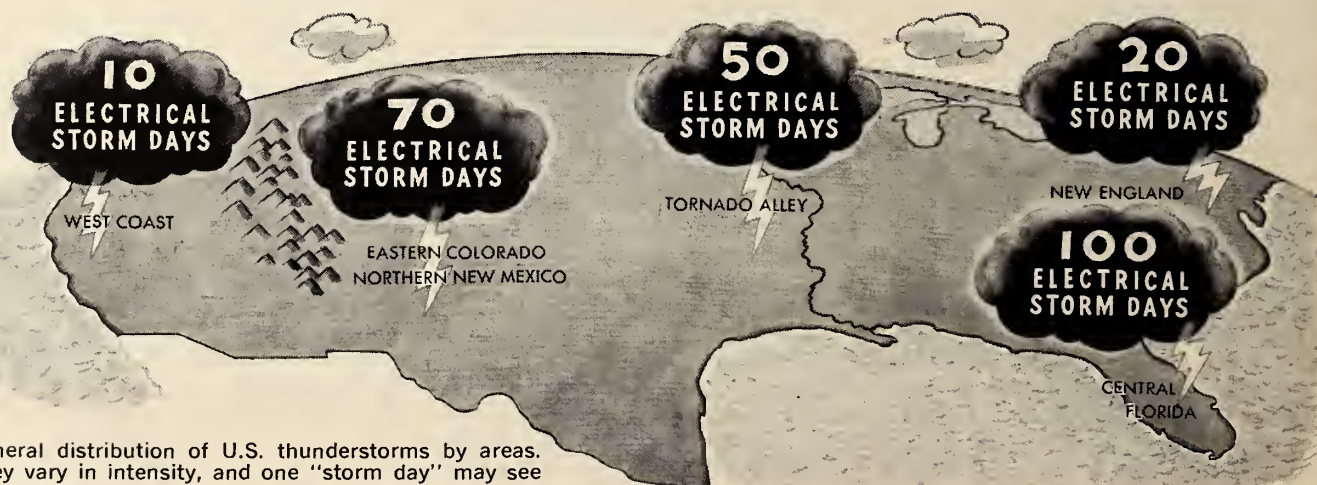
People who seek shelter from thunderstorms under trees (particularly tall trees, lone trees or hilltop trees) are asking for trouble. Trees are among lightning's favorite targets, yet unlike man-made lightning rods, trees are poor conductors of electricity. Consequently, lightning will abandon a tree it has struck and leap to any better conductor such as a nearby wire fence, a human or an animal. It is estimated that 10% of the bolts that damage houses first strike tall trees, then jump to nearby houses.

Even if lightning travels all the way down a tree the danger to nearby living creatures doesn't end at the foot of the tree. Especially if the soil is dry, lightning will fan out on the surface of the

earth. If it finds a better conductor than the earth it will detour through it. Thus it may run up one leg of an animal or human, then back to the ground through another. Any number of golfers who failed to get back to the clubhouse when an approaching storm first became evident have died in this fashion. Surface currents can travel for surprising distances. Lightning that hit a tree in a New Jersey cow pasture in July 1959 killed seven cows, one of them 100 yards from the tree.

Lightning tends to favor trees, hilltops and buildings because their height offers the shortest gap between the earth and the charged clouds overhead. On flat surfaces even a slight projection, such as a head sticking out of water, a boat or a living thing on a beach or plain becomes a prime target. In a report on the increasing number of lightning casualties caused by failure to seek shelter as a storm approaches, the National Safety Council

(Turn to page 14)



General distribution of U.S. thunderstorms by areas. They vary in intensity, and one "storm day" may see numerous storms within a designated area.



A ground-to-cloud flash may last less than 1/1000 of a second, and travel at over 61,000 miles per second.

LIGHTNING on the Prowl

offers a theory that many people believe that science somehow has lightning under such control that they need not concern themselves with their own safety.

This hardly seems likely, as there is no apparent reason for people to entertain such a belief. The best that science has done is to build in protection against lightning for fixed installations, such as buildings, radio aerials and power lines, by installing lightning rods, lightning arrestors, etc. Nothing protects people who expose themselves to lightning.

A more plausible theory to explain a growing human disrespect for lightning might flow from the fact that both auto-



Modern increase in damage and casualties is partly due to the way we're filling in the land-

gle catastrophes of such scope that they make headlines. Tornadoes, hurricanes, tidal waves, earthquakes, volcanoes and floods command more respect. What they do, they do in a big way. Yet the U.S. Weather Bureau notes that more deaths are caused by lightning in an average year in the United States than by hurricanes or tornadoes. Tornadoes take an annual average toll of 197 American lives, while direct lightning bolts kill about 230 a year. The Lightning Protection Institute notes further that when

four pedestrians into the Scioto River, one of whom died.

But New Jersey provided the target for the most expensive lightning bolt that ever hit the United States. That happened on Saturday afternoon, July 10, 1926. The sun was already slanting under the rear of an ordinary summer lightning squall when a parting bolt exploded magazine number 8 of the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot at Lake Denmark, in hilly northern New Jersey. The explosion sent a glowing mushroom cloud

DEPT. OF THE ARMY



This building at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., was the better part of a mile from the Lake Denmark explosion of 1926—the greatest disaster caused by lightning in American history. Fortunately, Picatinny did not blow up at the same time.

mobiles and big cities are relatively safe places for people in thunderstorms. There is no record of anyone being killed by lightning while in an automobile (probably because the rubber tires make a poor ground for the electricity), while in the big cities the tall, steel-framed buildings take most of the lightning and safely ground it. Hence, even when they are in the open country on foot, city dwellers lack the built-in respect for lightning's fearsome power that their country cousins have long harbored. Meanwhile, the country cousins are so used to driving autos safely in thunderstorms that they too may be becoming more careless of lightning's dangers.

Another invitation to disrespect of lightning is its failure to cause many sin-

fires caused by lightning are included, the annual death toll is more like 600, while 1,500 are injured and property damage amounts to some \$120 million a year.

Only occasionally does lightning produce a single headline-making disaster, instead of sniping homes and people one at a time.

In August 1947, a bolt slammed into the concrete and steel structure of the Broad Street Bridge over the Scioto River, at Columbus, Ohio, and set off a chain reaction disaster. It found the city gas pipes beneath the sidewalk of the bridge, triggering an explosion that rocked Columbus. The blast blew a 40-foot section out of the bridge and hurled



A tree is the worst possible shelter for man or animal during a thunderstorm.

into the sky higher than the thunderheads, to be followed by two more such blasts from other TNT magazines within a few minutes. The force of each of the three blasts was only slightly less than our first atomic bombs. The Army's neighboring Picatinny Arsenal was marked with shell holes and caved-in buildings and magazines, but fortunately did not join in the detonation. Trees and buildings within a radius of a mile were flattened, windows were shattered eight miles away and the sound was reputed to have been heard 90 miles off, in Philadelphia. People were knocked off their feet in towns four, five and six miles distant. A summer cottage called "Dew Drop In," a mile and a half from Lake Denmark, lay in splinters, inspiring the grim com-

ILLUSTRATED BY SYD LANDI



scape. But the death roster is largely filled by those who lack respect for lightning.

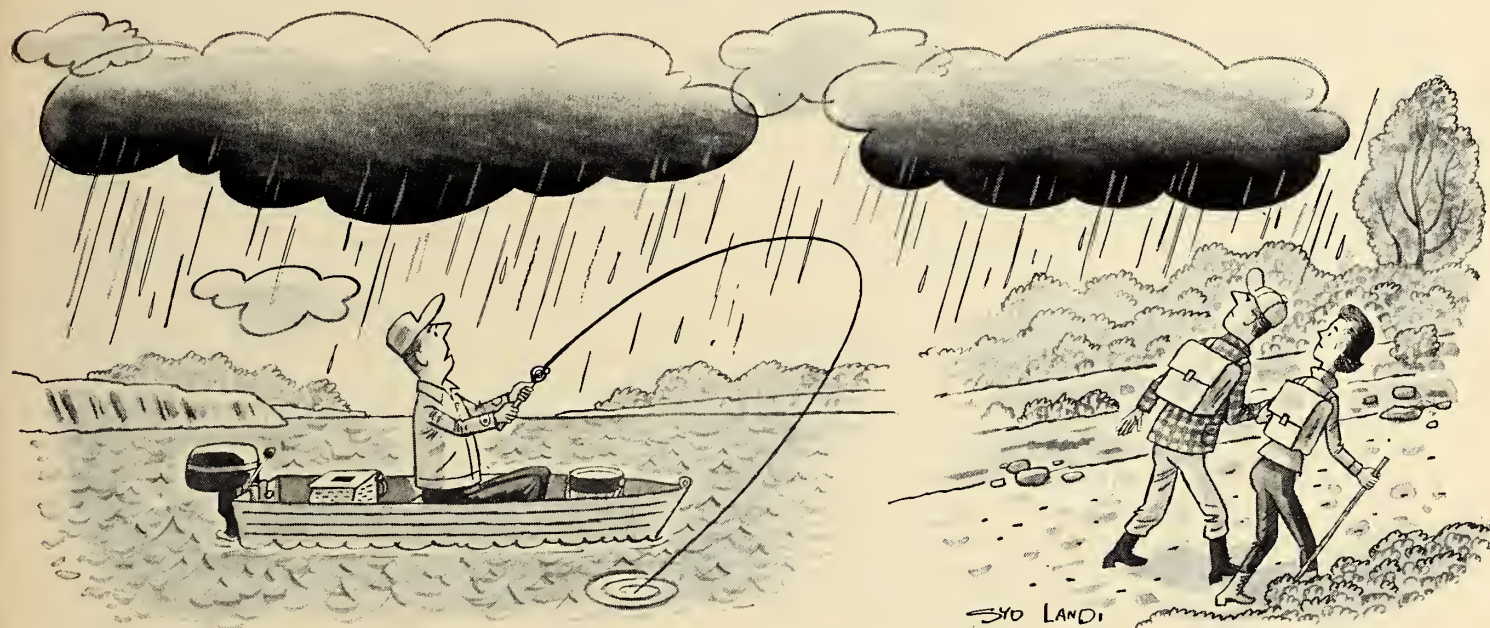
ment that it "did drop in." The death toll was 16, instead of in the hundreds, only because it was Saturday afternoon. Most of the victims were the skeleton maintenance staff and members of a Marine security guard. But the property damage came to more than \$70 million, and the wooded hills around the Naval reservation were known locally for years as "the devastated area."

New Jersey, far from the leader in total storms, is nevertheless a special firing range when it comes to lightning in-

Central Florida is a low, rather level region that receives more than its fair share of thunderstorms. It is actually the nation's electrical hot spot, with an average of 100 "thunderstorm days" each year. Daytona Beach, on Florida's east coast, is the foremost thunderstorm city of the nation, with an average of 93 a year. But many of Florida's storms are of low intensity, spitting only a few bolts as they pass. Florida also has a long thunderstorm season to help it amass its total. In Northern states lightning is uncommon

tains and plains about. The vertical flow of air caused by the prevailing winds passing over changing surface elevations reinforces the summer afternoon turbulence of heated, moist surface air. In the summer, Sante Fe, N. Mex., at 7,043 feet above sea level, is the big thunder city of the West. It has about 70 electrical storms a year. Around Colorado Springs, Colo., it is not uncommon to see three or four thunderstorms meandering across the landscape at one time on a summer afternoon.

Across the Rockies, on the Pacific Coast, there are about ten "thunderstorm days" per year. This, however, is not a fixed figure for the whole area. In some California coastal spots thunder and lightning are so rare that in one instance when a thunderstorm blew up during World War 2, the residents of one small town ducked for cover, and reported they were being bombed. Such California cities as Los Angeles and San Francisco



Most people killed by lightning are outdoors when a storm appears on the horizon and fail to take shelter in time.

tensity. A nighttime storm in northern New Jersey in 1941 hung over several northern counties for well over an hour of incessant, concentrated bombardment that terrorized people in their beds and left in its wake a host of burning cottages and homes. New Jersey's more intense storms have killed livestock wholesale, burned homes and barns with abandon and dropped human beings left and right on fields and beaches.

The southern portion of the United States spawns more electrical storms than the north, and there's more lightning east of the Rockies than west of them.

New Jersey averages 30 "thunderstorm days" a year. (A "thunderstorm day" may see many storms over a single state, yet none in some parts of it.)

between mid-September and late April.

Weather experts say that the thunderstorm activity in Florida is caused by prevailing winds sweeping across the Gulf of Mexico, picking up moisture, to be suddenly lifted by the heat of the land mass of the Florida peninsula. This converts the moist Gulf air into a thunderstorm parade.

The Great Plains have only about 50 "thunderstorm days" a year, spread out over such a large piece of landscape that little New Jersey's 30 reflect much greater local storm intensity.

A bit westward, though, there is a pocket extending from eastern Colorado into northern New Mexico that is Florida's close rival in thunderstorm activity. In this pocket, for the most part, moun-

experience no more than three "thunderstorm days" per year.

The Far West seldom has surface air that is both hot and moist—which is a prime breeder of thunderstorms. Its moist air is usually cool, its hot air is usually dry. But some of the mountains of the Northwest experience perhaps the most intense summer electrical activity in the nation.

Where lightning is concerned, the doorway to safety lies in understanding what lightning is, how it acts and what defensive measures to take against it.

In describing lightning, the U.S. Weather Bureau says that: "Lightning is DC or Direct Current. It is like a gigantic electric spark between areas where posi-

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SHOULD THE MINIMUM

YES

Rep. Richard Fulton (D-Tenn.)
5th District

IN HIS MESSAGE to Congress on May 24, 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt stated: "Our nation so richly endowed with natural resources and with a capable and industrious population should be able to devise ways and means of insuring to all our able-bodied working men and women a fair day's pay for a fair day's work."

A year later one of the nation's basic labor laws, the Fair Labor Standards Act, was enacted. It provided a minimum wage of 25¢ an hour.

Since that time, the law has been amended to increase the minimum rate. It now stands at \$1.25. Coverage has been expanded to include 29.6 million workers. This is not adequate.

A person earning \$1.25 an hour, working 50 weeks a year, exists on an annual income of only \$2,500, an amount measurably below the \$3,000 poverty level. In 1963, a year of relative prosperity, there were 8.5 million Americans who held full-time jobs throughout the year and earned less than \$3,000. Thus, a \$1.25 level is woefully insufficient.

The argument supporting an extension of coverage is primarily based on two factors: hundreds of thousands of workers not covered receive poverty-level wages or below, and the wages of workers not covered or exempt from coverage generally do not rise with increases in the cost of living, so that those workers suffer a continuing decline in real earnings.

The view that an increase would be inflationary seems somewhat shortsighted because we are talking about an increase in real wages.



The view that an increase would lead to unemployment because marginal firms would be forced to mechanize to compete also seems shortsighted. A more efficient means of production is desired in our economy because, in the long run, it leads to greater employment opportunity and better wages.

A Department of Labor study of the 1961 minimum wage increase indicated that the economy adjusted easily to its impact. Even in the lowest wage, non-metropolitan areas of the South, the increase in wages was accompanied by an increase of employment of up to 9%.

There have been many suggestions on how best to broaden coverage. The Administration requested extension to 4.5 million workers and recommended increasing the minimum wage. Economist Leon Keyserling suggests a \$2. minimum. At this writing the House Education subcommittee asks extension to 7.2 million workers with a wage increase to \$1.60.

A \$1.25 an hour minimum does not insure "to all our able-bodied working men and women a fair day's pay for a fair day's work." For those who are not presently covered, it insures nothing.

Thus, the question facing Congress today is not whether to increase the wage and extend coverage, but how much this increase should be and how broad an extension is practical. I believe Congress this year will resolve this question by increasing and extending benefits under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

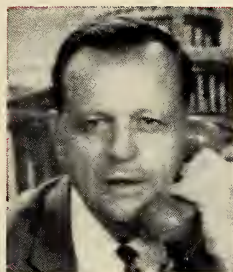
Richard Fulton

If you wish to let your Congressman or one of your Senators know how you feel on this big issue, fill out the "ballot" on the facing page and mail it to him.---

WAGE BE RAISED?

NO

Rep. Glenn Andrews (R-Ala.)
4th District



ONE BIG MEASURE affecting the cost of living still waits to be dealt with and that is the often misunderstood question of minimum wages. We have had a minimum wage since 1938 and every few years the Government has raised it slightly. It has come from 25¢ an hour in 1938 to \$1.25 an hour today. But it has been applicable only to the great interstate industries able to afford it. The Government is now attempting to include little people—small businesses and farms. Now, I would gladly vote to raise the salary of all my constituents if this seeming magic would make them wealthy. But I have no right as a Congressman to command employers to raise the salaries of their employees. Some could and would if the Congress demanded it. But if they were not making a sizable profit and the Government ordered them to raise salaries, then they would have to close their businesses. Millions of people would lose their jobs.

The minimum wage being debated in the Congress will do just this. It could force thousands of little businessmen out of business, resulting in joblessness for millions of people.

If the little businessman or farmer is able to raise his prices in order to pay the minimum salary to his employees, then the consumer public will bear the burden of the extra cost. This rise in the cost of living is about to happen to you and me, unless we can prevent it.

An increased minimum wage can only be borne by an economy that can afford it. Governor Rockefeller of

New York recently vetoed a bill passed by the New York legislature to raise the minimum wage to \$1.50 because such a law would place his state at a disadvantage in competition with other states. If New York could not bear this extra burden, what will be the effect of raising the minimum wage to \$1.60 in Alabama—a state with approximately one-half the per capita income of New York?

The President recently criticized the New York Transit Strike settlement as being inflationary with a 5% increase in the transit worker's wages. He would then turn around and raise the wages of millions of workers by 28% over the next two years.

Also, a minimum wage will not only raise the salary of the worker earning below the minimum. When his salary is raised, the workers above him must also be raised to keep the scale in line.

Giving people a raise out of other people's money, which a minimum wage would do, is a terrible step backwards. It raises the pay plateau above the reach of the poor and unskilled, and forces employers to buy machines or labor-saving devices in order to continue in business. Good jobs for all is what I am most interested in, and not unemployment. But with increased unemployment and inflation, the people will then be running to the Government for help when the Government itself has foolishly and cynically produced the unemployment and misery. It is my responsibility to tell you what the rascals in your Government propose to do.

Glenn Andrews

I have read in The American Legion Magazine
for June the arguments in PRO & CON: Should
The Minimum Wage Be Raised?

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE
IN MY OPINION THE MINIMUM WAGE
☐ SHOULD ☐ SHOULD NOT BE RAISED

SIGNED

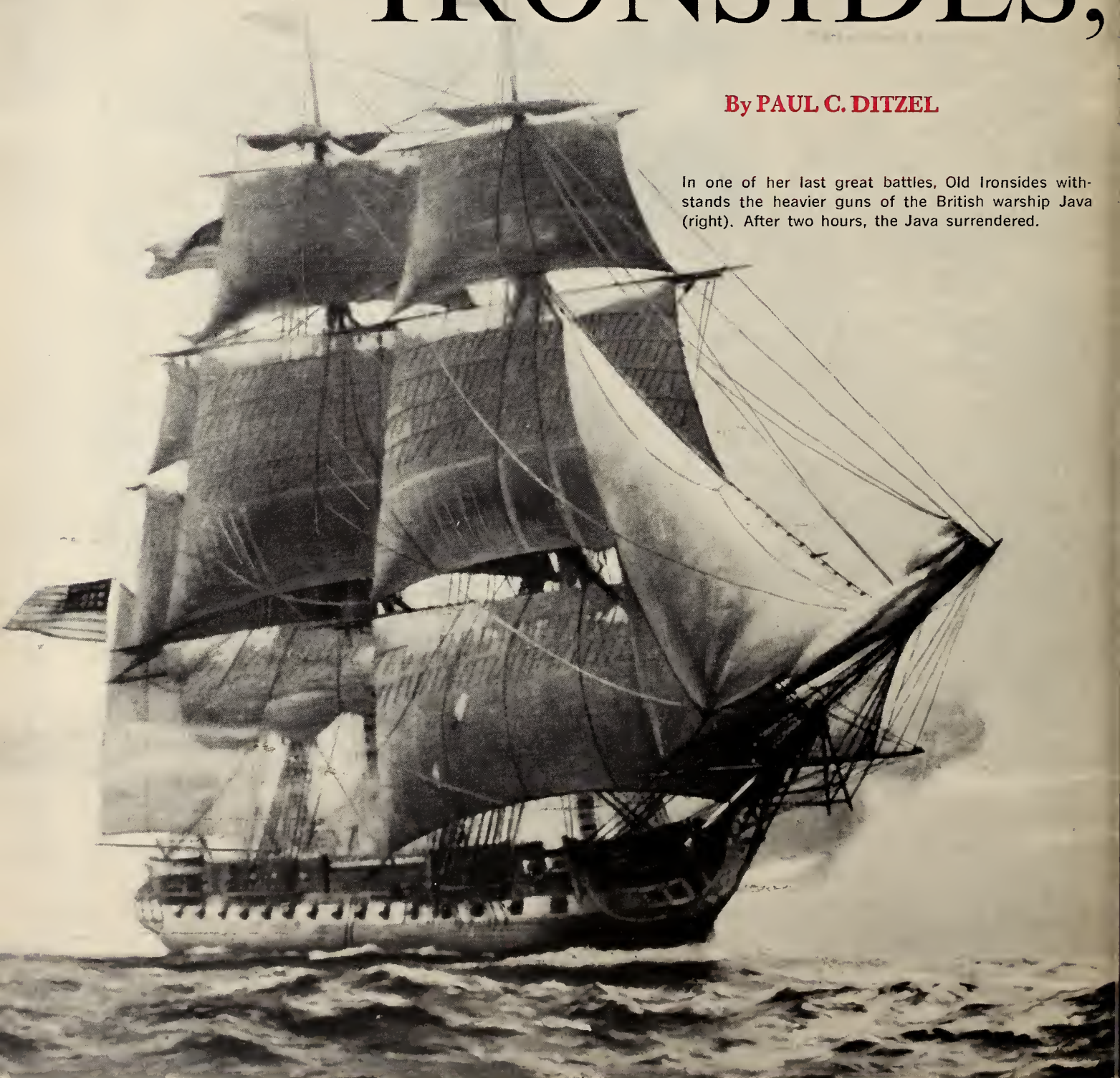
ADDRESS

TOWN..... STATE.....

The Story of OLD IRONSIDES,

By **PAUL C. DITZEL**

In one of her last great battles, Old Ironsides withstands the heavier guns of the British warship Java (right). After two hours, the Java surrendered.



America's Most Beloved Fighting Ship

*"Aye, tear her tattered
ensign down . . ."*

wrote Oliver Wendell Holmes
in 1830—but the
U.S.S. Constitution's ensign
still flies in Boston harbor.

OLD IRONSIDES," the 44-gun frigate *U.S.S. Constitution*, is our oldest fighting ship still in active commission. Berthed today in Boston Naval Shipyard, more than half a million people walk her decks every year. She was launched in 1797, she never lost a

battle, and she stands today as a symbol of America's successful fight to win our freedom on the high seas. Under a succession of brilliant captains she fought the Barbary pirates, outgunned the British warship *Guerrière* in single combat, took on and defeated the *Cyane* and *Levant* at one time, whipped the *Java*, got away from seven British warships taken on in error and was the subject of a British order *not* to fight her. She was saved from being scrapped by two great waves of public sentiment almost 100 years apart, and is the subject of a poem still

known and loved 136 years after it was written.

Two grave threats forced the construction of the *Constitution* back in the 1790's. Most serious were attacks on our merchantmen by Barbary corsairs operating in the Mediterranean. The other threat was that from Great Britain and Napoleon's France which were at war. While we proclaimed our neutrality, both countries were impressing our seamen, blockading our ships and seizing American cargoes in foreign ports. We had no sailing fleet to defend our fast-growing sea trade because the last of our Revolutionary War ships had long since been sold. (Continued on next page)



CONTINUED *The Story of*
OLD IRONSIDES,
America's Most Beloved
Fighting Ship

The federal Constitution was only five years old on March 27, 1794, when Congress voted to build six frigates. Congress voted to name the *Constitution* after "the great bulwark of our government." This act, founding the Navy of the United States, provided that construction would halt if a treaty could be negotiated with the Barbary corsairs.

Generally regarded as the chief designer was Joshua Humphreys, 42, a Philadelphia shipbuilder. Josiah Fox, a brilliant young shipbuilder, was his assistant. Both were Quakers and attempts were made by the Society of Friends to expel them because of the organization's opposition to war.

Frigates were selected because they were in between the two other chief classes of standard warships: ships-of-the-line, mounting 74 to 100 guns, and sloops-of-war, mounting 10 to 20 guns.

Frigates, mounting 35 to 40 guns, were like latter-day cruisers. Their primary purpose was to capture merchantmen.

Humphreys and Fox revolutionized naval architecture. The frigates' hulls curved in above water and made the spar deck narrower than the gun deck immediately below. Under the gun deck was the berth deck, and below that the orlop for storage. The narrow spar deck brought the rigging closer to the three masts than the recognized design of standard frigates. This departure permitted sharp bracing of the yards for sailing on the wind.

The *Constitution's* hull frames, planking and masts were equal in dimensions to those of a small ship-of-the-line. She would be 204 feet in overall length, and have a beam of 43 feet, 7-1/5 inches. These dimensions made her about 20 feet longer and five feet wider than the latest British frigates.

Her foremast would tower 208 feet, 10 inches; her mainmast 234 feet, 1 1/2 inches; and her mizzen, 162 feet, 10 inches. The depth of her hold was slightly over 14 feet. She drew 21 feet forward and 23 aft. Her tonnage was 1,567 and displacement, 2,200 tons. Her tanks held 48,600 gallons of water and her hold could carry provisions for six months for a crew of 475. Each sailor would have an area of only two feet by eight feet in which to sling his hammock and stow his gear.

BETTMANN ARCHIVE



Deck scene on the *Constitution* at the commencement of the action with the British frigate *Guerrière*, Aug. 19, 1812. During this battle, the name "Old Ironsides" was given the ship.

Humphreys protected her hull in many places by more than 20 inches of frames and planking.

The increased diameter of the masts (the *Constitution's* main mast, for example, was two feet, nine inches thick) gave greater stiffness.

Humphreys placed 28 long-guns firing a 24-pound shot on the gun deck (14 on either side) and ten long 12-pounders on the quarter-deck.

Soon after launch, the *Constitution's* firepower was increased by the addition of seventeen 32-pound carronades, a stubbier gun with a barrel only four feet long, mounted on the spar deck. The advantage of carronades was in closer range firing at 400 yards compared to the long guns' 600. Their shot would act as battering rams punching holes in the sides of enemy ships.

Because there were no navy yards, War Sec'y Henry Knox leased commercial yards in Philadelphia, New York, Norfolk, Baltimore, and Portsmouth, N.H., to build the six warships.

The *U.S.S. Constitution* was laid in Boston at a shipyard owned by the three Hartt brothers; one of whom, Edmund Hartt, was retained as the yard foreman. The yard is near what is now Constitution Wharf.

Humphreys dumbfounded nearly everyone by demanding the extensive use of live-oak in the framework. Because of its scarcity and its weight, no other nation used that wood in shipbuilding. But it had great strength.

A good stand of live-oak was found on a group of islands in Georgia. The Government bought three of them for \$16,000. The *Constitution's* masts were found in Unity, Maine, where tall pines

were felled, dragged to the sea and towed to Boston.

A letter to Secretary Knox, signed by a Boston coppersmith, said he could supply copper and composition bolts, braces and other parts "as cheap as anyone." He boasted he had a secret process for forging the bolts and spikes. His price, he said, would be \$3,820.33. The letter was signed by Paul Revere. He got the job.

Then news came that peace had been signed with Algiers. Construction work stopped.

The story of the *U.S.S. Constitution* might have ended there, except that Great Britain and especially France were now boldly attacking American shipping.

In July 1797, Congress voted to finish the *Constitution* and the two other frigates nearest completion, the *Constellation* and the *United States*. (Ultimately, the other three would also be completed.)

The *Constitution* was scheduled for launch on September 20. On that day, workmen knocked blocks and shores away, but the *Constitution* stood fast. Screw devices were only able to nudge her 27 feet and further attempts to launch her that day were ended.

Two days later a second attempt failed. A third attempt was scheduled October 21, a Saturday.

By noon a crowd of several thousand had gathered. A newspaperman from the Boston Sentinel recorded the launch:

"At fifteen minutes after twelve, at the first stroke at the spur shores, she commenced a movement into the water with such steadiness, majesty, and exactness as to fill almost every breast with sensations of joy and delight. . . ."



After the battle, with no critical damage, Old Ironsides hovers triumphantly over the dismasted, helpless hulk of the *Guerrière*. Impossible to salvage, she was burned and sunk.

N.Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY



Commodore
Edward Preble, U.S.N.

U.S. NAVY



Commodore
Isaac Hull, U.S.N.

N.Y. PUBLIC LIBRARY



Commodore
William Bainbridge, U.S.N.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES



Barnlike structure, added after the Civil War, turned the *Constitution* into a training and receiving ship.

U.S. NAVY PHOTO



Old Ironsides now restored to her former majesty, resides in Boston Harbor, where she has a permanent crew and receives the public every day, year round.

On April 30, 1798, a Navy Department was created under a separate cabinet officer, Benjamin Stoddert. That summer, Congress authorized the capture of any armed French vessels, following a French privateer's attack on Charleston, S.C.

The *Constitution* cleared for sea and her shakedown cruise on July 22, 1798. The most costly single item in her stores was 4,500 gallons of whiskey. Each crewman was entitled to a daily ration of half a pint with which to wash down the salted pork, beef, stale bread, flour, peas, cheese and molasses which comprised his daily fare.

The *Constitution's* crew consisted mainly of foreign-borns, officered by Americans, who signed for one or two-year enlistments. Native-born Americans could command more money in our merchant ships than the \$8 to \$17-a-month Congress voted to pay enlisted men.

While searching in the West Indies for French merchantmen, the *Constitution* ran across a British frigate, the *Santa Margarete*. Her commander, a Captain Parker, was an old acquaintance of the *Constitution's* captain, Silas Talbot.

Parker doubted Talbot's boast that the *Constitution* could do 12 knots or better. Talbot accepted the challenge and a dawn-to-dusk race was arranged. At stake was a cask of fine Madeira against its cash equivalent which Talbot put up.

When the race ended, the British frigate was well behind the *Constitution*. Never again was there any question of the *Constitution's* good speed.

While we were occupied with France, the Barbary pirates seized the opportunity.

(Continued on page 42)

A NEW LOOK AT

How the National Capital has changed

By **DEANE AND
DAVID HELLER**

IT IS 12 YEARS since the American Legion held its National Convention in Washington, D.C. Now the Legion is going there again in August. Washington, so full of old things, has added an astonishing array of new things to see, do and enjoy since 1954. By all odds the most exciting of these for most people are the new halls, built and being built, for the Smithsonian Institution.

The new sights in the nation's capital include such diverse attractions as sidewalk cafes, a new tour of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving where you can see a billion and a half dollars in the process of being printed, Explorers Hall at the National Geographic Society, the new Hilton Hotel that could have come straight from a Hollywood movie set, millions of dollars worth of recently acquired art treasures at the National Gallery, a new Center of Islamic Culture, the new D.C. sports stadium and even a "new" Washington Senators' baseball team.

Also new are many animal "celebrities," a deer park and a remarkable aviary at the National Zoo; one of the world's largest churches, the National Catholic Shrine; the opening to the public of the Truxtun-Decatur House, home of two great naval heroes; the completion of the Iwo Jima Memorial honoring

in the 12 years since the American Legion last held its national convention there.

marines of all wars; new theaters; expansion of many of Washington's famous hotels and the opening of many new restaurants.

Two new shrines in Washington were born of the tragedy of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Kennedy Grave with its Eternal Flame at Arlington National Cemetery has drawn millions of visitors who wish, by their presence, to pay their respects to the memory of the late President. St. Matthew's Cathedral, on Rhode Island Ave., off Connecticut Ave., also draws many who revere President Kennedy's memory. Through television, the interior of St. Matthew's was made familiar to hundreds of millions as the site of President Kennedy's funeral service.

The "new look" at the Smithsonian, the world's largest museum, means that if you haven't seen it recently, you haven't seen it at all. The Old Smithsonian was sometimes called the nation's attic. The new is the latest thing in 20th century museumry.

Entering the Smithsonian's gleaming new History and Technology Building from the Mall entrance, you find yourself stepping into a huge, semi-darkened hall. For an instant, your attention may be attracted to a giant, free-swinging pendulum, three stories tall, designed to demonstrate the rotation of the earth upon its axis. Then your glance shifts. Soft spotlights play gently upon an enormous red, white and blue flag, 32 feet wide. Fifteen white stars on a field of blue. Once this giant banner was a full 42 feet long. But, as your eye travels down its red, white and blue stripes hanging free and unfettered, you'll notice that part of the bottom has been slashed off in jagged, irregular fashion.

This is *the* Star-Spangled Banner, which Francis Scott Key immortalized in verse after the 1814 bombardment of Fort McHenry, Md., one of the most treasured of the Smithsonian's 59 million "significant items."

In case you're wondering why the bottom of the flag is mutilated, the lower

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION



The familiar old Smithsonian Institution (left) was once called the "nation's attic." The new Smithsonian edifices (at right, the History and Technology building) are the "latest in modern museumry." Smithsonian changes highlight new things in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C.



A view down Pennsylvania Avenue from the Capitol.

portion was cut into strips to drape the caskets of American soldiers who died in the British bombardment of Fort McHenry.

The last time the Legion met in Washington, the Fort McHenry flag was shut away in a glass case, almost lost to view in a jumble of cluttered museum exhibits. Display space at the Smithsonian was then so limited that the lower six stripes of the great emblem of America had to be folded over, making it impossible to see them.

The change is symbolic of the exciting things that have been happening at the Smithsonian. Among the thousands of new things you can see are the legendary Hope Diamond, largest blue diamond in the world; a Hall of the Sea; a Hall of Man, and a fascinating "Political Parade" that makes American history come alive before your eyes.

(Turn to next page)

WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL



The National Cathedral, to hold 10,000, is still abuilding. When finished in 1985, it will be one of the world's largest churches. Within the Cathedral are the tomb of Wilson and War Memorial Chapel.

A NEW LOOK AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Smithsonian's collection of famous jewels, almost entirely new since the last Legion convention, is displayed in the new Hall of Gems. The most valuable collection of jewels on display on this continent, they would excite the envy of a hundred Maharajahs. In 1958, the 44½-carat Hope Diamond, a deep, sapphire-like blue, held on a glittering circlet and chain of 52 white diamonds, was given to the Smithsonian by New York jeweler Harry Winston. At the time, the tabloid newspapers were filled with lurid stories of the "curse" that was supposed to go along with the Hope Diamond. If memory fails you, a succession of owners, including the French royal family, a Maharajah and a long list of

Harry Winston in memory of the late Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Chairman of the DeBeers diamond company.

The new Hall of the Sea at the Smithsonian is crammed with memorable marine exhibits. Prize of the collection is a one-to-one scale model of a 92-foot-long blue whale, an exact replica of the largest mammal existing in the world today—and probably the largest that has ever existed, the Smithsonian says. A jolly sort, the blue whale sports a 25-foot-wide grin. Suspended high in the air by invisible supports, he prepares to plunge into an imaginary ocean.

Among the thousands of specimens shown is a fish that would be the envy of any angler, the world's record black

slogan: "McKinley And Protection."

Some among the new collection of campaign buttons are nostalgic reminders of by-gone eras: "Bryan—White House Or Bust, 1908;" "If I were 21, I'd Vote For Willkie," countered by the pro-FDR, "Two Good Terms Deserve Another." One faded blue bunting banner is a priceless gem of Americana. A likeness of Thomas Jefferson and an American eagle on the fragile cloth are a reminder of the Campaign of 1801: "Thomas Jefferson For President," the banner pleads, "John Adams is no more."

In the Smithsonian's aviation exhibits, John Glenn's space capsule and other displays of man's conquest of the world beyond earth have joined the Wright Brother's *Kitty Hawk Flyer*, and Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis*.

So many new halls and displays have

BYRON SCHUMAKER



Mohini, a white tigress from India, is one of the unique sights at the National Zoo. Mohini now has a yellow kitten.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT—BUREAU OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING



A new gallery tour of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving permits you a chance to see a billion or so in cold cash.

others were supposed to have met disaster, each because they owned the fabulous diamond.

The Hope Diamond seems to have brought good luck to the Smithsonian, however. Wealthy donors, perhaps inspired by the gift of the Hope Diamond, have given some of the world's most priceless gems to America's treasure house. Among the famous jewels you now can see are the deep red, 50-carat Star Ruby of Burma; the Napoleon Necklace, a bauble containing 275 carats of sparkling white diamonds, given by the French Emperor to Austria's Marie Louise in 1811; the 127-carat Portuguese Diamond, supposedly worn by members of the royal family of Portugal; the 330-carat Star of Asia, a blue star sapphire; and a huge, nameless white diamond that dwarfs the Hope Diamond. This latter, a 253-carat stone the size of a small child's fist, also was donated by

marlin. The gift of Alfred Glassell, Jr., this superfish weighed more than three-quarters of a ton when caught. Official measurements are 14½ feet in length; weight, 1,560 pounds. The black marlin was installed in the Hall of the Sea in December 1964, in ceremonies attended by President Johnson.

History and politics are anything but dull at the "Political Parade" in the Smithsonian's new History and Technology Building. Life-size figures of Americans in authentic period dress exhort you to "Vote For The People's Choice For President—Henry Clay and T. Frelinghuysen—1844." Republicans of 1860 vintage carry a banner urging you to mark your ballot for "Old Abe Prince of Rails." There is a log cabin from the "hard cider" campaign of William Henry Harrison in 1840, and an elegantly fashionable lady of 1896 carrying a silken umbrella that bears the

been added to the Smithsonian that it is impossible even to begin to mention them all. If you were to spend even one minute looking at each item on display, it would take you three years to see everything in the Smithsonian. The Smithsonian Institution is open daily. From April to September the hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. It is located on the Mall between 9th and 12th Streets, N.W.

Just down the Mall from the Smithsonian Institution is the National Gallery of Art, officially a part of the Smithsonian. Billions of dollars' worth of art masterpieces are shown. Besides the Rembrandts, Titians, El Grecos, Raphaels and thousands of others, an exciting new gift has been added to the National Gallery since the last Legion convention. In 1965, the art world was electrified by the bequest of the Chester Dale Collection of Art to the National Gallery. The Dale Collection, the National Gallery



The National Geographic Society's new Explorers' Hall, a museum blending science, adventure and exploration. Inside, a



free-standing, free-wheeling globe, 11 feet high, 34 feet around. Museum, in center of city, is open seven days a week.

reports in an understatement, is "one of the most valuable single gifts ever left to the National Gallery of Art or to any other museum." Its canvases fill several galleries. The bequest includes, among others: six paintings by Cézanne, six Corots, nine Degas, four Gauguins, five Van Goghs, nine Matisse, nine Monets, 11 Picassos, nine Renoirs, six Lautrecs and hundreds of others. Added to the National Gallery's holdings, it results in one of the world's great collections of French Impressionist paintings. The National Gallery's expanded evening and weekend schedule begins April 1. The Gallery will be open until 10 p.m. every night through Labor Day.

The Phillips Gallery at 1612 21st Street, N.W., also has several splendid Impressionists. World famous is its prize canvas, Claude Renoir's dazzling masterpiece "The Luncheon Of The Boating Party," which hangs in a room especially constructed for it in a new wing built in 1960. Mentioning art—among the collections of the Corcoran Gallery at 17th Street & New York Avenue, N.W., are portraits of famous early Americans such as Washington, Clay, Calhoun and Lincoln, which were painted by artists of their time. Admission is free at all galleries mentioned.

A block from the Corcoran is the Museum of the Daughters of the Ameri-

can Revolution, which has been greatly enlarged and expanded since the last Legion convention. Open free from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, the DAR museum features elegant rooms representing the history of each of the states, handsome portraits of early Americans, Washington's life mask and thousands of other items of interest. A "Children's Attic" features early American toys.

Also new and admission free is the National Geographic Society's Explorers' Hall at 17th & M Streets, N.W. The Society is noted for its careful scholarship, but it has the happy gift as well of

(Continued on page 49)

RENI PHOTOS



The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, dedicated in 1959, attracts pilgrims the world over.

WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL



The new Washington Hilton Hotel, Convention headquarters, will also be site for final two days (Aug. 31, Sept. 1) of business. (Convention will meet in Washington Armory on first day.)

(Readers may find this series of value on future motor trips or of interest to students of American history. We suggest you clip and save each as it appears.)

By **ALDEN STEVENS**
Field Director, Mobil Travel Guide

IN A STEEP Rocky Mountain gulch, 35 miles west of Denver, Colo., lies Central City. Rich gold deposits found in 1858 made this a boom mining town which retains much of its original flavor. Central City is a center for exploring nearby ghost-mining towns, as well as a great attraction for tourists.

Ancient wooden houses, perched precariously on the steep slopes, look down on gay crowds of visitors and amusing events up and down Eureka St. This has always been the town's main drag and it follows the original gulch. There is a mine open for tours and a mining museum. The famous Teller House, where President Grant, Horace Greeley and others stayed, offers guided tours of its old-time elegance. Meals and a few rooms are available and the famous "face on the barroom floor" adds color to the hotel's bar. Square dancing and other

SEEING HISTORIC AMERICA #23 A travel series for motorists



Central City, 1966: history, art and culture amidst the elegance of another era.



Ghosts of Gold and Opera in Central City, Colorado

western amusements are added attractions to a summer's fun.

The town offers modern motorists a wonderful extra summer dividend—The Central City Opera and Drama Festival. Performances are nightly, with some matinees. The handsome and quaint Central City Opera House is a reminder of the days of easy money which died as the gold and silver mines were worked out. July is the biggest tourist month.

Inquire by mail of the Central City Opera House Assn., 200 W. 14th Ave., Denver, Colo. 80204, for the current year's schedule of events. Nationally known stars perform operas and sometimes plays from the same stage from which Edwin Booth, Modjeska and Lotta Crabtree thrilled the miners.

Ghost towns such as American City, Nevadaville, Nugget, Apex, Alice and Waldorf are within easy reach. It is doubtful whether any other area that is so compact has as many of these ghost towns with so many of the original buildings and mine works still to be seen.

Roads to most of them are not good; four-wheel drive vehicles with high road clearance are best, but some may be reached in any car without serious difficulty if you have experience in driving on unpaved, high-center roads. (If you



haven't, it is safer to hire a guide with a jeep; ask before leaving Central City.)

For a time Central City itself was very nearly a ghost town, but was revived and in part restored during the 1930's. Hunting, fishing and, in the winter, skiing are all available not many miles away. About 75 miles north is Rocky Mountain Na-

tional Park, one of the most beautiful in the system. Dude ranches offer exploration of the wonders of the mountains, both on horseback and by jeep. And just a short drive to the east is sophisticated and charming Denver.

1966 Motel and Restaurant Info:

Very good—Gold Dust Village Motel, 3 miles east on COLO 119 near Black Hawk. 22 rooms. Cafe, bar. Phone Black Hawk 4631. (For additional motels and restaurants see MOBIL TRAVEL GUIDE to the Southwest and South Central States under Denver, Empire, Idaho Springs, Georgetown and Golden, Colo.)

Your visit to any historic area is enriched if you read about it first. "COLORADO, a Guide to the Highest State," one of the American Guide Series, may be available at your library. It is somewhat out of date but has a good account of Central City. "Jeep Trails To Colorado Ghost Towns," by Robert L. Brown, published by the Caxton Printers, Caldwell, Idaho, is an excellent illustrated guide to 59 Colorado ghost towns. Ask your librarian about other books.

NEWSLETTER

A DIGEST OF EVENTS WHICH
ARE OF PERSONAL INTEREST TO YOU

JUNE 1966

DEPENDENT PARENTS, ORPHANS, HELPLESS CHILDREN OF DECEASED VETERANS WOULD BE AIDED BY PROPOSED HOUSE BILL:

A subcommittee of the House Veterans Affairs Committee at this writing is reported to look with favor on a new bill to increase and liberalize VA benefits for dependent parents, orphans and helpless children of war veterans who died of service-connected causes . . . The bill, HRL4347, was introduced by Rep. James M. Hanley (N.Y.), and favorably viewed by the Subcommittee on Pension and Compensation.

The bill would provide some small increases in all categories of payment to dependent parents of war-killed veterans, and in most categories it would increase the permissible dollar limits on other income which tend to reduce or disbar their receipt of VA benefits . . . (As there are some 15 categories, depending on present marital status and present income, we do not list them here).

Even more important, the bill would extend to dependent parents those exclusions of other income that limit receipt of benefits which now apply to VA pensioners . . . There are many of these which do not presently apply to dependent parents, such as the receipt of GI life insurance benefits; profit from the disposition of non-business property; amounts paid for deceased spouse's just debts; costs of last illness and unreimbursed burial expenses of a veteran or a deceased spouse; payments on fire insurance policies, and for jury duty . . . Probably the most important exclusion proposed for dependent parents in the bill is 10% of any retirement income.

The bill would also increase the monthly payment, by some small amounts, which now goes to orphans and helpless children of veterans who died of service-connected causes.

Unaffected by the bill are benefits for widows of veterans who died of service-connected causes . . . The bill is specifically tailored to increase and liberalize benefits under DIC (Disability and Indemnity Compensation) rather than benefits under the "old law" which preceded

DIC . . . At the time DIC first became effective, beneficiaries could remain under the previous law if they chose . . . "Old law" beneficiaries would not be affected if the bill should become law in its present form.

ACTION BY CITIZENS NEEDED IF NATIONAL CEMETERIES' FUTURE IS TO BE ASSURED:

There is a growing tendency in the Federal Government to try to get rid of the National cemeteries . . . The American Legion and its Auxiliary are asking their units and individuals to write to Congress in support of HRL3059, "A bill to govern further development of the National Cemetery system."

Letters are needed especially to the members of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to which the bill was referred, and to the House Committee on Veterans Affairs, which has indicated an interest in exploring the subject of National cemeteries.

HRL3059 was introduced in late February by Rep. Ralph J. Rivers (D-Alaska) at the request of The American Legion . . . The Legion wrote it to reaffirm the policy of furnishing war veterans a burial site in National cemeteries; and to initiate prompt action to establish a National cemetery policy within the framework of which the National cemetery system can be continued and expanded as needed in an orderly fashion.

Current policy of the Administration appears to be in opposition to any further National cemetery expansion, with the exception of Arlington National Cemetery . . . If Arlington is to become the one available National cemetery, the time will come when a method of preference to burial there will need to be defined.

Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs is Rep. Wayne N. Aspinall (Colo.)

Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee is Rep. Olin E. Teague (Tex.) . . . You can write to any Representative by simply addressing him by name, at U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

VETERANS NEWSLETTER

2,300 ON HAND TO MARK THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VA VOLUNTEER HOSPITAL SERVICE:

The Veterans Administration Volunteer Service (VAVS) marked its 20th anniversary with appropriate ceremonies (and the biggest meeting of those interested in volunteer veterans hospital services in history) in Washington, D.C., last April 18-20.

More than 2,300 people were present, including leaders of 42 national organizations, and 1,445 individuals actively engaged in some facet of the work of volunteer services in VA hospitals . . . More than 900 of the delegates were on hand for a White House reception, where they were greeted by Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

VAVS is the organized echo of the early work of Legionnaires and members of other dedicated groups who, in the earliest days of the VA hospitals, took it upon themselves to visit, cheer and serve hospitalized veterans on their own.

In April 1946, the VA coordinated their independent work by establishing a service for that purpose within the hospitals . . . The new service cut down duplication, assisted in the programming of entertainment and visitations to patients by volunteers on an orderly basis, and above all became a piece of administrative machinery whereby the efforts of the volunteers could be tied in with the medical programs for patient welfare. . . . Biggest need today is for new blood among the volunteers.

AUTHOR SEEKS EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS OF THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY:

Author Walter Lord, whose book on Pearl Harbor, "Day of Infamy," was "wonderfully" assisted by readers of this page, is doing another on the Battle of Midway, the great Pacific carrier battle in the early days of WW2 . . . The assistance of readers who can provide eyewitness accounts of the battle would be appreciated by him . . . Write: Walter Lord, 25 E. 38th Street, New York, N.Y. 10016 . . . As they have in the past, other authors are also seeking to improve and authenticate forthcoming works of war history with the cooperation of "Newsletter" readers . . . See next three items below.

80TH DIVISION HISTORIAN WANTS TO HEAR FROM ALL WW2 MEMBERS IN CONNECTION WITH THE DIVISION'S FIRST HISTORY:

Fred L. Witzgall, National Historian of the 80th ("Blue Ridge") Division is compiling the first history of the Division and is attempting to make as complete a roster as possible of its WW2 members . . . Witzgall urges all WW2 80th members to send him "full name and address, former serial number, company and regiment in which you served . . . " and to indicate "(1) date you joined your unit, (2) date you left your unit, (3) if you were wounded, and if so when and where, and (4) if you possess papers and photos relating to the division's activities." . . . Write: Capt. Fred. L. Witzgall, USAF, 233 Fairchild Drive (LAFB), San Antonio, Texas 78236.

AUTHOR SEEKS INFO FROM WW2 MAURETANIA PASSENGERS AND 414TH INFANTRY VETERANS:

In connection with a history of combat infantrymen in Europe in WW2, writer Glenn Miller would like to hear specifically from:

(a) Infantrymen who arrived in England on the Mauretania on Sept. 25, 1944; and

(b) Members of the 414th Infantry Regiment (104th Division) who were engaged in combat in the Netherlands in late October and early November, 1944 . . . Veterans wishing to assist him with anecdotes and information write: Glenn M. Miller, c/o Mildred I. Reid Writers' Colony, Penacook Road, Contoocook, N.H. 03229.

WRITER SEEKS DATA ON U.S.S. LANGLEY AND ESCORTS:

Lester M. Bell of Alexandria, Va., advises "Newsletter" that he's writing a history of America's first aircraft carrier, the U.S.S. Langley (CV-1) . . . Says he: "I'd like to hear from anyone who served on board from the time she was the fleet collier Jupiter until her bombing by the Japanese in the Java Sea as the seaplane tender Langley (AV-3). Letters from anyone aboard the oiler Pecos and the destroyer Whipple would also be welcome." . . . Write Lester M. Bell, 8708 Bluedale St., Alexandria, Va. 22308.

JUNE 1966

Boys' Nation President Wins National Oratorical Contest

Ron McCoy, 1965 Boys' Nation President, takes \$4,000 prize in contest finals at New England College; first time one youth has been tops in two Legion programs; three other nat'l finalists share additional \$4,000.

The improbable finally happened. For the first time, the winner of one major national American Legion Youth Program took top honors in another national Legion program.

Ronald T. McCoy, 18, of Nogales, Ariz., President of the 1965 American Legion Boys' Nation, has won the 29th Annual American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest and the \$4,000.00 college scholarship that goes with it in finals held at New England College, Henniker, N.H., April 7, 1966.

Among the audience of close to 1,000 persons were national, state, and local Legion leaders and other dignitaries including National Commander L. Eldon James, National Americanism Commission Chmn Daniel J. O'Connor (the contest is an activity of that commission), and New Hampshire Governor John W. King.

Ron, sponsored by Ridge-Igo Post 23 of The American Legion in Nogales, where he is a senior in the high school, is a husky, blonde six-footer with an engaging grin, excellent stage presence, and a booming baritone voice when he wants to turn it on. Ron is a popular student and active in extra-curricular affairs and football.

He is the son of Col. and Mrs. Timothy McCoy of Nogales. Many Legionnaires will remember his father as Tim McCoy, the cowboy film star of pre-WW2 days. Young McCoy, who plans to use his scholarship prize to study law at Arizona State University or William & Mary College, selected "Our Constitution: A Promise To Keep" as his theme and threaded Robert Frost's poem "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening" through it. His speech coach who assisted him in training for the oratorical contest was Miss Doris Siebold of Patagonia, Ariz.

To achieve this unprecedented double-header in Legion youth programs, McCoy battled through his local and state oratory contests, then took Regional 12 and Sectional D honors before head-

ing to New England College for the finals.

At the 1965 Boys' Nation, held on the campus of the University of Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C., McCoy was the choice of 99 other Boys' Nation delegates when they elected him their President. The 100 Boys' Nation Senators were themselves the top choices out of 28,000 delegates from the various Boys' States around the nation.

Ron will also receive the American Academy of Achievement's Golden Plate Award for 1966 at the Academy's Annual Salute to Excellence which will be held later this month in Dallas, Tex.

Each year there are untold thousands of high school students involved in the local oratory contests. This year they were winnowed down to 51 state or department level winners. Out of this there remained 12 regional winners, then four sectional winners, and finally the national champion stood alone.

In all, \$8,000.00 in college scholarships was available and the other three finalists did not go home empty-handed.

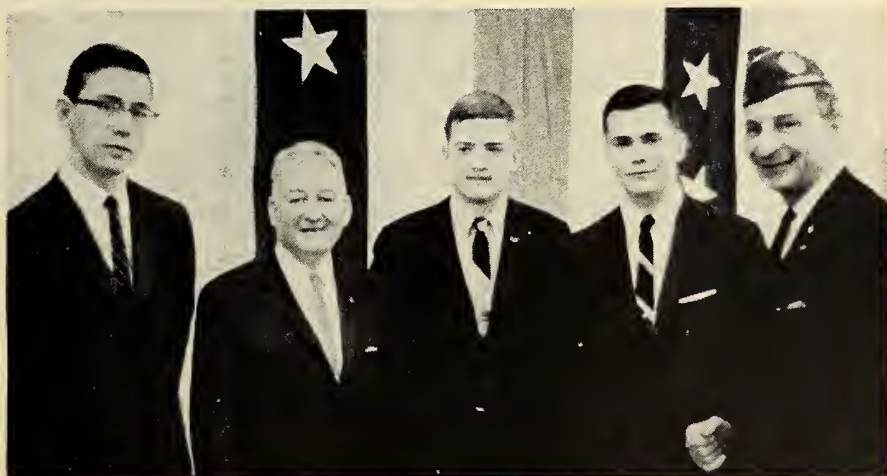
Winner of the \$2,500.00 second prize was Thomas Patrick Nerney, 18, of At-



1966 Nat'l Oratorical Champ Ron McCoy.

lanta, Ga., who used "The Constitution—Song of Freedom" as his theme in the prepared oration. A senior at St. Pius X High School in Atlanta, Tom is active in debate and other extra-curricular affairs and plans to use his scholarship to pursue study of the law and eventually enter politics. He was sponsored by Atlanta Post 1 of The American Legion, attended the 1965 Georgia Boys' State and lives with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Francis X. Nerney. Tom won local and state contests, Regional 5 and Sectional B oratories before reaching the finals.

Third place winner and holder of a \$1,000.00 college scholarship is John Charles Peterson, 17, of Topeka, Kans., son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Peterson. John, who also was 1965 Governor of Kansas Boys' State and attended the



Other Oratorical finalists with national American Legion leaders at New England College, Henniker, N.H. From l. to r.: Thomas Nerney, Ga., 2nd place, \$2,500; Nat'l Americanism Comm'n Chmn Daniel J. O'Connor (N.Y.); John Peterson, Kans., 3rd place, \$1,000; Gregory Petsko, Va., 4th place, \$500; and National Commander L. Eldon James.

1965 Boys' Nation where he was appointed to the Supreme Court, selected a theme of balance in constitutional power in government titled "Nothing In Excess" for his prepared oration. A golf champion, John is very active in debate and other extra-curricular activities. He was sponsored by American Legion Capitol Post 1 of Topeka and plans to study business and law. Young Peterson won local, state, Regional 8 and Sectional C contests before attending the finals.

Winner of fourth place and the \$500.00 college scholarship is Gregory Anthony Petsko, 17, of Fairfax, Va., who competed in the District of Columbia where he attends Gonzaga High School. Sponsored by American Legion Bunker Hill Post 31 of the District, Gregory plans to study research and analytical chemistry. He is a debater and writer in extra-curricular activities and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Petsko. Greg won local, Regional 3 and Sectional A contests before reaching the New England College finals. He selected "Our Living Constitution" as his prepared oratory theme.

Each of the four finalists had to deliver an eight-to-ten minute prepared oration on the Constitution of the United States and then speak off-the-cuff for three-to-five minutes on a subject pertaining to the Constitution. This last subject is given to the contestants only five minutes before they are required to talk on it. Nat'l Cmdr James himself selected the subject from blind cards. He picked the Second Amendment, which provides for the right of citizens to bear arms in common defense.

Designed to test the high school student's depth of knowledge on the basic principles of our constitutional form of government, the contest has been approved by the National Association of Secondary School Principals since 1943, only five years after the program was first begun.

Other objectives of the contest are to develop leadership, the ability to think and to speak clearly as well as intelligently, and the preparation for the acceptance of duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

Since 1938, The American Legion has provided more than \$203,000 in cash scholarships on the national level. Many more thousands of dollars in cash and scholarships have been awarded by Departments, their districts and posts.

Thirteen participants in last year's contest, including three National Finalists, have been granted awards by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., for "Outstanding Accomplishment in Helping to Achieve a Better Understanding of the American Way of Life."



At N.Y. Legion Department dinner in his honor, Nat'l Cmdr James presents check for \$25,000 from the Legion's Vietnam Relief Fund to Frank Goffio, accepting for CARE.

American Legion Vietnam Relief Fund Reaches \$100,000 Mark

The American Legion Vietnam Relief Fund, authorized by Resolution #15 of the Fall 1965 Meeting of the Legion's Nat'l Executive Committee, and set into motion by National Commander L. Eldon James, has crossed the \$100,000 mark. Approximately \$75,000 has been disbursed from the fund to date for use in S. Vietnam.

One \$25,000 grant, recently delivered in S. Vietnam by American Legion National Auxiliary President Mrs. Walter H. Glynn, went directly to Gen. Wm. C. Westmoreland for him to administer with the aid of the military civic action groups under his command.

Still another grant supplied 51 wheelchairs and 200 pairs of aluminum crutches for Vietnamese paraplegic veterans through the Vietnamese Veterans Legion.

The fund is designed to relieve the suffering of the embattled South Vietnamese people and help them rebuild their nation through aid distributed by the military civic action programs of U.S. Armed Forces fighting in Vietnam.

It works like this. Money, flowing into American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., from all parts of the nation—and even from overseas—is collected into a special fund. No administration expenses are taken out of

this fund. The money is then fed in the form of grants to the relief organizations on the spot in Vietnam for them to buy items for the Vietnamese as they need them.

Purchased are medicines, schoolbooks, cloth for making clothes, writing materials for school children, lumber and other materials for building schools and essential buildings, sewing machines and whatever other goods are necessary to maintain life.

To remove the cost of long distance shipping and warehousing, relief goods supplied to the Vietnamese are purchased as much as possible in local markets. This insures that the most value is received for each dollar donated and that the recipients benefit the most.

The job of distributing relief aid in S. Vietnam by military personnel is a hugely satisfying one from the human angle but a difficult one as seen from the military angle. U.S. military units distribute the goods and help the people during the times they are not actually engaged in military operations. If a unit has to go into action, civic action programs must be put aside until they can return.

Some of the armed forces units making Legion-CARE distributions are the 1st Infantry Division, the 173rd Air-



Vietnamese mother in Lai Thieu refugee camp gets Legion-CARE textile packet.



Primary school children marvel at new writing kits.



Lai Thieu orphanage gets new sewing machine.

borne Brigade, and the 159th Engineering Group. In the Lai Thieu District of S. Vietnam, about 25 miles north of Saigon, elementary student school kits, textile packages and a sewing machine for a deaf and dumb school and orphanage have been distributed. Another distribution took place in the town of Di An in the Thu Duc District.

The most recent presentation from the fund was a check for \$25,000 handed over by Nat'l Cmdr James (see photo) to CARE, the International Relief Organization, at a dinner given by the New York Department of The American Legion at the Hotel Commodore, April 19, in honor of the National Commander. Frank Goffio, Executive Director of CARE, accepted the check. CARE is one of the relief organizations acting as the Legion's agent in S. Vietnam.

The two states leading thus far in donations to the Vietnam Relief Fund are New Jersey with over \$25,000 and New York with over \$18,000. The two largest individual post donations have come



1st Inf. Div. GI distributes school kits.

from Peter Minuit American Legion Post 1247 of Bronx County, N.Y., which gave \$5,000, and Wayne Marchand Post 28 of Okinawa in the Ryukyu Islands off Japan, which donated \$3,045.

The Vietnamese people still desperately need our help. Contributions may be

made to the Vietnam Relief Fund by mailing them to The American Legion Vietnam Relief Fund, National Headquarters, American Legion, P. O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, Ind. 46206. All such donations are tax deductible.

Personal Packages to Vietnam

The wisdom of sending Vietnam packages to definite personal mailing addresses is proved by the experience of **Post 1041, Buffalo, N.Y.** Letters and postal cards from local servicemen in Vietnam were received within eight days after the post mailed them packages of lemon juice, pocket books, toothpicks, cellophane bags, ballpoint pens, stationery, etc. A returned vet, Sgt. George Lumberg, said, "The lemon juice concentrate in squirt bottles is wonderful to help relieve thirst—you just put a drop on your tongue. Or you can flavor the local tea with a couple squirts. And when we could find ice, we even made lemonade with it."

(Continued on page 34)



L. Eldon James
National Commander

The 47th National Executive

The 47th National Executive Committee of The American Legion held its annual spring meeting at National Headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind., as this issue went to press. Shown on these two pages are the 1965-66 representatives. Of the 65 members, 58 are from state and foreign departments and were elected by their department conventions. The remaining seven are the elected national officers: The National Commander, five National Vice Commanders, and the National Chaplain. The National Commander serves as chairman of the Committee. Living Past National Commanders are also life members but without vote. There are presently 32 of them.



Rev. Alfred C. Thompson
National Chaplain



Hugh W. Overton
Alabama



George Petrovich
Alaska



Ralph A. Watkins, Jr.
Arizona



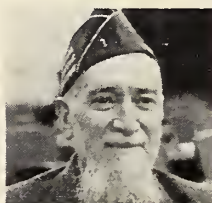
Ulys. A. Lovell
Arkansas



A. Lee Oder
California



E. Meade Wilson
Florida



Sedley Peck
France



W. D. Harrell
Georgia



Wallace C. S. Young
Hawaii



Bernard F. Gratton
Idaho



Karl Yost
Illinois



Maurice R. Parisien
Maine



H. Laird Roeder
Maryland



Gabriel T. Olga
Massachusetts



Harry Wright
Mexico



John M. Carey
Michigan



Eugene V. Lindquist
Minnesota



William G. McKinley
New Jersey



W. Peter McAtee
New Mexico



Louis E. Drago
New York



W. D. Robbins
North Carolina



Patrick T. Milloy
North Dakota



Alec J. Blair
Ohio



John A. Ryer
Rhode Island



E. Roy Stone
South Carolina



Glenn R. Green
South Dakota



Whit LaFon
Tennessee

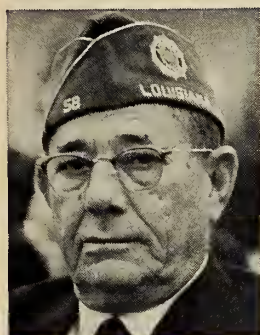


J. Walter Janko
Texas



William E. Christoffersen
Utah

Committee of The American Legion



Dr. A. R. Choppin
National Vice Commander



William E. Galbraith
National Vice Commander



Robert O. Phillips
National Vice Commander



William J. Rogers
National Vice Commander



Soleng Tom
National Vice Commander



Forrest Monner
Canada



Robert Grauberger
Colorado



Joseph G. Leonard
Connecticut



Charles E. Jackson
Delaware



Allyn C. Donaldson
District of Columbia



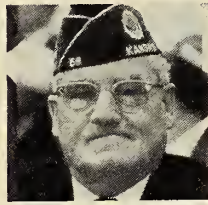
Robert L. Kuntz
Indiana



Robert Lounsberry
Iowa



Sexson E. Humphreys
Italy



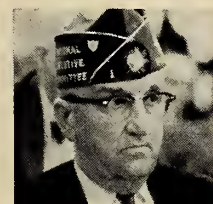
V. L. Lehr
Kansas



Kenneth Fern
Kentucky



Henry B. Clay
Louisiana



Ralph M. Godwin
Mississippi



James F. Kerr
Missouri



William A. Lindsay
Montana



Robert W. Lowry
Nebraska



Thomas W. Miller
Nevada



Raymond F. Mudge
New Hampshire



Gene Hassman
Oklahoma



William Stevens
Oregon



Raymond G. Bush
Panama Canal Zone



Daniel A. Drew
Pennsylvania



Charles A. Park
Philippines



Gilberto M. Font
Puerto Rico



Ray Greenwood
Vermont



Dr. Thomas H. S. Ely
Virginia



Aiden F. Russell
Washington



L. O. Bickel
West Virginia



James E. Mulder
Wisconsin



C. B. Metz
Wyoming

Sergeant Lumberg gave an idea of what sort of clothing was needed for soldiers and especially for refugees: "You couldn't help but notice all the children running around barefoot with just a pair of tattered shorts and T-shirt. Almost any light summer clothing would help, any size at all. This would include long and short sleeve shirts, slacks, skirts, blouses, sandals and many other items. . . . They really go for our U.S. fashions. When folks are so down, they need a dream to keep them going; wearing new clothes from America is one dream."



Eight days after Post 1041, Buffalo, N.Y., sent gifts to personal addresses of servicemen in Vietnam, replies were received.

In the photo above are (l. to rt.): Chester S. Kolano, Gifts Chmn; Sgt. George A. Lumberg; Mrs. J. W. Green of the Auxiliary; and Post 1041 Cmdr Ted Marzynski.

Post 979, Upper Darby, Pa., also has received verification of its gifts—over 600 transistor radios and about 2,500 packages of cigarettes, each stamped with post's name. "The Musketeers."

Post 788, Hilton, N.Y., and Unit 788 mailed gift boxes to men from the town of Parma.

Post 59, Morristown, N.J., sends 1,500 paperback books monthly to specific points in and around Saigon.

Post 154, Elmira Heights, N.Y., participated in a community project called Operation Adoption, which has sent about 1,400 paperback books to its

adopted Vietnam unit, the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry. Post 559, Harrison, N.Y., has adopted Co B, 2nd Bat, 2nd Inf Reg't, 1st Div. (photo below, at left), and will send requested items. Second from right: Frank Brady, Post Adjutant.

Other New York posts taking part in Operation Adoption are: White Plains Post 135, Newburgh Post 152; Tappan Post 1271, Far Rockaway Post 433, Forest Hills Post 630, Mt. Kisco Post 136, St. James Post 1152, Rensselaer Post 1231, Amityville Post 1015, New York City Post 1781, East Farmingdale Post 1803, and Sidney Post 183.

Among the posts sending home town newspapers free to local servicemen in Vietnam are: Post 13, Albuquerque, N.M.; Post 26, Niles, Mich.; and Post 222, Laguna Beach, Calif.

Louis A. Johnson Dies

Louis A. Johnson, 75, of Clarksburg, W. Va., a Past Nat'l Cmdr of The American Legion (1932-33) and Secretary of Defense (1949-50) under President Truman, died April 24 in Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C. He was admitted to the hospital on April 13 for treatment of a stroke and a heart attack. He was a senior partner in the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson, based in Clarksburg.

Survivors include his widow, the former Ruth Frances Maxwell, whom he married in 1920, and their two daughters, Lillian Maxwell Johnson, of Clarksburg, and Mrs. A. C. C. Hill, Jr., of New York.



Louis A. Johnson speaking to the Legion's 1958 National Convention in Chicago, Ill.

ters, Lillian Maxwell Johnson, of Clarksburg, and Mrs. A. C. C. Hill, Jr., of New York.

Born in Roanoke, Va., on Jan. 10, 1891, the son of a grocer, Johnson attended the Univ. of Virginia and became the University's heavyweight boxing and wrestling champion. He was president of his class when he graduated in 1912 with a law degree.

An Infantry captain in WW1, he served as chairman of West Virginia's delegation to the Legion's first national

convention in 1919, and became a member of the Nat'l Executive Committee. He served as Assistant Secretary of War from 1937 to 1940 and was Secretary of Defense from March 1949 to Sept. 1950.

He worked earnestly in the cause of preparedness in the years preceding Pearl Harbor, and played a leading role in planning the WW2 mobilization of industry. He was directly concerned in planning for the expansion of the Army and in preparing the Selective Service Act. A vigorous champion of the long-range bomber, he worked hard to build up the Air Force.

As Secretary of Defense, Johnson was credited with furthering the unification of the military services and reducing waste in the Defense Dep't. He was a strong advocate of military aid to non-communist nations.

BRIEFLY NOTED

The article entitled "The Systematic Terror of the Viet Cong," along with an editorial comment on it, both from The American Legion Magazine of November 1965, was reprinted as a public service advertisement in various daily newspapers in Westchester County, N.Y., by the Westchester County Committee of the Legion. Dep't Cmdr William E. Egan, Jr., informed all Department officers that newspaper mats of the article (which greatly facilitate reprinting in any newspaper) are available in full newspaper size at \$3.50 each plus postage.

"Hopefully," said Cmdr Egan, "some newspapers will reprint the ad in recognition of its charitable nature; others may do so at cost; all will do so at full advertising rates." To order mats, write to: Frank Gore, Mason & Gore, 47 Buena Vista Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. You will be billed \$3.50 for each mat plus shipping charges. Dep't Adjutant Maurice Stember notified all Dep't Cmdrs and Adjutants of the opportunity.

Ex-Legion baseball player Roy White, of Compton, Calif., signed from Legion ball by the New York Yankees in 1961, was voted Outstanding Rookie of the Yankees' 1966 training camp season. Last year he was named Most Valuable Player in the Southern League as a Columbus second baseman. This year he became an outfielder.

Another Yankee farmhand is pitcher John Carl Schroepel, who played with Memphis, Tenn., Post 1's national Legion 1963 runner-up team.

Signed by the Boston Red Sox off the Univ. of Missouri campus is outfielder Dan Rudanovich, once a pitcher with the 1962 Legion Nat'l Champion team of Post 299, St. Louis.



Legion posts adopt U.S. outfits in Viet.



Ceremony at the Legion's birthplace.

On the 47th birthday of The American Legion, on the site of the founding in Paris, Legionnaires recently celebrated the anniversary. On a small side street on the left bank, at 14 Rue Ernest Psichari, where a sports arena stood in 1919, a wall plaque bears the inscription, in both French and English: "On this site was born The American Legion—March 15-17, 1919." A floral wreath was laid by Howard Dulin, **Paris Post 1** Cmdr; Helmut Eisenberg, Dep't Cmdr of France; and (in the photo above, l. to rt.) Edward Fournier and Frank Mennone. Others at the ceremony were James Abel, Richard Anderson, William Holmquist, James R. Murphy, and Frank Van Brakle.

Presently sponsoring 4,118 Boy Scout units (Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, and Explorer posts—56 more than a year ago). The American Legion

COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these comrades are urged to do so.

Notices are run at the request of The American Legion Nat'l Rehabilitation Commission. They are not accepted from other sources.

Readers wanting Legion help with claims should contact their local service officers.

Service officers unable to locate needed witnesses for claims development should refer the matter to the Nat'l Rehabilitation Commission through normal channels, for further search before referral to this column.

USS Pocahontas, WW1—Dischargees from this ship at Bay Ridge Naval Station, Brooklyn, N.Y., who witnessed a court martial on or about Nov. 20, 1919 there, please contact **A. E. Sanders**, 5227 Gladstone Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64123.

Gulfport, Miss. 1943—Need information (to settle a VA claim) from anyone who saw **Hugo Jakob Tikkanen** fall and hurt his back. Also need information from a physical training officer, and the medical officer who refused to sign Tikkanen's papers for overseas duty, both at MacDill Field, Tampa, Fla. Write Mr. Tikkanen at 5208 Lake Road W., Ashtabula, Ohio 44004.

Fort Riley, Kans. May 1945—Need information from anyone who saw **Willard Sherwood** thrown from a horse and dragged by a stirrup in basic training at 1st Reg't, 5th Platoon, Troop A, CRTC, and who knew of a back injury to him suffered while lifting tent flooring at Batangus, Philippines, Sept. 28, 1945. Write Willard Sherwood, 4040 6th St., Winona, Minn.

has a goal in the next year or two of a total of 5,000 units, stated Legion Nat'l Cmdr Eldon James, recently. The Commander and several New Jersey Legion officials were honored at a luncheon at the Nat'l Office of the Boy Scouts of America in New Brunswick, N.J.

In the photo below are (l. to rt.): C. Harold Saidt, Public Relations Consultant, Legion Dep't of New Jersey; Jack Kuepfer, Americanism Chmn, Dep't of New Jersey; William G. McKinley, Nat'l Executive Committeeman; Robert L. Billington, Ass't Chief Scout Executive, BSA, presenting mounted barometer with Scout statuette to Cmdr James; Daniel O'Connor, Nat'l Americanism Chmn; David B. Foley, New Jersey Legion BSA Chmn; and Harold A. Eaton, Chmn, 1st Annual Nat'l BSA Conference of the Legion (1965), and Dean of N.J. Boys' State and Boys' Nation.



Legion goal: To sponsor 5,000 BSA units.

POSTS IN ACTION

Post 1221, Brooklyn, N.Y., gave \$1,000 to the American Legion Vietnam Relief Fund and a \$200 scholarship to a Lafayette H.S. student. **Post 30, Olney, Ill.**, sent \$585 to the ALVR Fund. **Post 63, Mount Vernon, Wash.**, gave \$138 to the ALVR Fund from its 138 members.

Post 14, Laramie, Wyo., put its lady Post Cmdr, Doris Christ, on the air during a talkathon sponsored by Laramie H.S. students. She paid tribute to the 200 students who raised \$475 for the Fund in a 15-hour appeal over Station KLME.

Vietnam policy support is dramatically evident on the marquee (see photo below)

of **Post 344, Jeannette, Pa.** The occasion was the post's annual Americanism program meeting. Shown (l. to rt.) are: Louis Byerly, Jr., VC; Fred Croushore, PPC, District 31 Deputy Cmdr, and Post Americanism Chmn; and Raymond Weaver, Post Cmdr. Face of marquee at right (not readable in this photo) says: "The American Legion will not forget the men."



Post 657, Calif., makes things pop.

Post 657, Sun City, Calif., acted upon a remark made by a serviceman in Vietnam that one of the things most missed by soldiers at DaNang Air Base was popcorn. So wrote Col. Richard E. Hale, USAF. His father-in-law, E. E. Wheatley, a Post 657 Legionnaire, mentioned the request and the post went to work. Result: packages of unpopped popcorn began arriving at DaNang, addressed to Colonel Hale, who later wrote: "I broke all records for an individual receiving the most mail in a single day as mail bag after mail bag arrived . . . We charged \$.10 a bag and gave the profits to local institutions that take care of children orphaned by war."

In the photo above are Post Cmdr Bert Bewick; Josephine Arnold, a former WAC captain; and PPC Ottis L. Cooper, a Past Dep't Cmdr of Alabama, with popcorn destined for Vietnam.

Post 95, Port Richmond, Staten Island, N.Y., presented a citation for American-



Marquee of Post 344, Jeannette, Pa., is aglow with flags and support for Vietnam.

ism to John Wedel in recognition of his daily display of the American flag over his place of business for more than 25 years.

■
Post 601, Parish, N.Y., gave a citation and heroism medal to 10-year-old Victoria Ladd, daughter of Legionnaire and Mrs. A. Leal Ladd, for saving from drowning another ten-year-old.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Frank Becker, of Post 6, Dubuque, Iowa, a Past Dep't Judge Advocate, appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court by Legionnaire Gov. Harold Hughes.

■
Dr. Harry H. Kretzler, Past Nat'l Vice Cmdr (1960-61), appointed by Gov. Daniel Evans of Washington to serve on the Veterans Rehabilitation Council. Dr. Kretzler will be the Legion's representative.

■
Daniel A. Drew, of Pittsburgh, Pa., appointed Nat'l Executive Committeeman to succeed Walter Alessandrini, who resigned.

■
Francis Polen, Legion Nat'l Treasurer, honored at a dinner marking his 40th year with the Peoples Bank and Trust Co. of Indianapolis. He is the bank's executive vice president.

■
Albert V. LaBiche, of New Orleans, La., named chairman of The American Legion's 50th Anniversary Committee, which will plan events for 1968-69, when the Legion will mark its founding in Paris, France, in 1919.

■
E. Dean Hunter, of Denver, a past Dep't Cmdr, named Dep't Adjutant of Colorado.

DIED

Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, America's first five-star admiral, who, at the Legion's 1945 Nat'l Convention, was awarded the Legion's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal.

■
Oscar E. Lewis, of Bagley, Minn., Past Dep't Cmdr (1944-45).

■
L. Gooden Callaway, of Harrington, Del., Dep't Service Officer and Past Dep't Cmdr (1960-61).

■
Harry J. Benoit, of Twin Falls, Idaho, Past Nat'l Executive Committeeman (1932-38).

■
Paul Chambers, of Jackson, Miss., a Founder of The American Legion who attended the St. Louis Caucus in 1919.

James J. Izard, of Roanoke, Va., who attended the St. Louis Caucus.

■
Augustin Perez-Andino, of Santurce, P.R., Puerto Rico Dep't Chaplain.

■
George W. Fisher, of San Diego, Calif., a member of the Legion's Nat'l Security Commission.

■
Edward M. White, Sr., of Wells, Nev., Past Dep't Cmdr (1953-54).

■
W. Rex McCrosson, of Palmyra, N.J., a general member of the Legion's Nat'l Rehabilitation Commission and a Past Dep't Cmdr (1931-32).

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

The award of a life membership to a Legionnaire by his Post is a testimonial by those who know him best that he has served The American Legion well.

Below are listed some of the previously unpublished life membership Post awards that have been reported to the editors. They are arranged by States or Departments.

John D. Morris and **R. Lewis Morris** and **James M. Newby** and **Cloyd Pepper** and **Paul L. Pepper** (all 1957), Post 49, Athens, Ala.

Claudio Falletti (1964), Post 103, Cotati, Calif.
Ralph R. Randel and **Harold Reichner** and **Theodore Robins** and **Roy L. Shafer** and **Frank L. Smith** (all 1965), Post 291, Newport Beach, Calif.

Charles J. Sembach (1965), Post 303, El Cajon, Calif.

Raymond G. Smith (1966), Post 703, Morro Bay, Calif.

Adam T. Raczkowski (1966), Post 72, Southington, Conn.

Maurice M. Sarasohn (1965), Post 89, East Haven, Conn.

Edward P. Crane and **Ralph L. Nelson** (both 1965), Post 146, Bethlehem, Conn.

Homier E. Murphy (1966), Post 111, Tampa, Fla.

Lyle M. Kreitzer (1966), Post 3, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Everett Davis (1965), Post 268, Chicago, Ill.

Joseph Sauerzapf and **Frank Siuchninski** and **Vincent Tomaszewski** and **Ben A. Truse** (all 1966), Post 419, Chicago, Ill.

Harold E. Ratliff and **Carl Rihm** and **C. M. Schatzlein** (all 1965), Post 152, Knightstown, Ind.

Guy C. Barry and **Audrey E. Fultz** and **Homer Dallas Ingram** and **Elizabeth S. Saunders** (all 1965), Post 184, Newport, Ind.

Charles Wisneski (1965), Post 330, New Haven, Ind.

Winn F. Johnson and **J. Howard Peterson** and **Charles R. Sexton** (all 1963) and **Carl L. French** (1964), Post 1, Troy, Iowa.

Richard H. Rambo (1965), Post 103, Greensburg, Kans.

Raymond M. Kline (1962) and **Leonard B. Higgins** and **Robert E. Lee** and **John B. Smith** and **Theodore Stegner** (all 1965), Post 346, Kansas City, Kans.

Bennett M. Brown and **James R. Casey** (both 1965), Post 14, Troy, Mich.

Charles A. Mason (1966), Post 475, Schoolcraft, Mich.

Francis Bryan and **Berl Field** and **Roy McBride** (all 1966), Post 515, Dimondale, Mich.
R. G. Tonneson and **Sigvald Tveit** and **James V. Sweeney** (all 1965), Post 31, Mahanomen, Minn.

Ray Libby (1966), Post 384, Dodge Center, Minn.

Dave O'Shan (1961) and **James R. Irwin**, Sr. (1963) and **Raymond R. Lahaie** and **Lucien A. Levasseur** and **Cyril H. Malone** (all 1965), Post 1, Laconia, N.H.

Carl Holmquist and **Lester McConnell** and **William Rickley**, Sr. (all 1964) and **Foster Clark** and **Francis J. Kinney** (both 1965), Post 391, Mine Hill (Dover), N.J.

Harry D. Putman (1964), Post 39, Amsterdam, N.Y.

Max Hirschfeld (1965), Post 48, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Charles R. Fengler and **Richard E. Krauss** and **Lewis P. Taggart** (all 1965), Post 106, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Eli Reuben and **S. Harry Rosenfeld** and **Julius Simon** and **Charles Toddfield** and **Samuel B. Wagner** (all 1965), Post 159, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Frank Soles (1966), Post 194, Rochester, N.Y.
Thomas D. Hargraves (1966), Post 209, New York, N.Y.

Max Biletsky and **Dr. Henry A. Trow** (both 1966), Post 1011, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Samuel Frankel and **Harry Grogin** and **Samuel Herskowitz** and **Jack Kalman** (all 1965), Post 1124, Bronx, N.Y.

Thomas R. Donaruma and **Charles D. Dote** (both 1966), Post 1290, Utica, N.Y.

Daniel B. Moyer (1965), Post 72, Palmyra, Pa.
Charles Romanoski (1965), Post 234, Souderston, Pa.

Manuel Abdon Nazario (1965), Post 47, Cabo Rojo, P.R.

O. W. Ice (1966), Post 7, Huron, S. Dak.

Olaf Grinden and **Wm. Hanneman** and **Wm. C. Hicks** and **John Whirlwind Horse** and **Carl Humphrey** (all 1965), Post 240, Martin, S. Dak.

Roy Clem and **Harvie Clymer** and **Gilbert K. Coffman** and **Rev. John Eggen** (all 1964), Post 199, Woodstock, Va.

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ARMY

3rd Cav Gp, 3rd & 43rd Sqdns—(Sept.) J. O. Howard, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

6th Army Hq & Hq Co & Det—(June) George Mullens, 518 Park, Baytown, Tex. 77520

11th Inf Reg't—(Sept.) John L. Key, Jr., 3708 N. Graham Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. 46218

21st Eng Reg't (WW2)—(Sept.) Richard H. Selak, 1070 Kelly Dr., York, Pa.

29th Div (WW1&2)—(Sept.) Alex M. Shields, 31 Maple St., Kearny, N.J.

31st Rwy Eng (AEF)—(Sept.) K. J. Nelson, 2521 3rd Ave. N., Great Falls, Mont. 59401

37th Div—(Sept.) Jack C. Wander, 37th Div. Vet. Assoc., 21 W. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio

38th Eng Reg't—(Aug.) Emile E. Joseph, P.O. Box 2347, Washington, D.C. 20013

38th Reg't, Co A (WW2)—(Aug.) Charles R. Reber, 236 N. Franklin St., Lancaster, Pa.

56th Reg't CAC (WW1)—(Sept.) Archibald Merriam, 16 Bayview Ave., South Norwalk, Conn. 06854

63rd Arm'd Inf Bn, Co A (with 11th Arm'd Div Reunion)—(Aug.) Allen A. Lanning, 1009 Cambria Ave., Windber, Pa. 15963

66th Art'y CAC (WW1)—(July) George A. Duval, P.O. Box 303, Woonsocket, R.I. 02895

75th Sta Hosp—(Aug.) John J. Matone, 148 Shennandoah Dr., Pittsburgh, Pa.

87th Inf Div—(Sept.) Walter C. Dippold, 703 Glenwood Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21212

88th MP Co (WW1)—(Aug.) Albert J. Meyer, Box 1125, Cumberland, Iowa.

113th Eng (WW1)—(Sept.) Bob Davis, R.R. 4, Noblesville, Ind.

120th Ord Co MM—(Aug.) R. S. Parker, 8575 King Graves Rd., Warren, Ohio 44484

125th Field Art'y Bn, Bat C (Korea)—(Aug.) Dale W. Smith, 900 Sherman, Jackson, Minn.

129th Inf, 1st Bn & Med Det—(Aug.) H. O. Ovelmen, 2113 Caton Rd., Ottawa, Ill. 61350

132nd Gen Hosp Gp—(Sept.) John Schoeph, 907 N. 18th Ave., Melrose Park, Ill. 60160

148th Arm'd Sig Co—(Sept.) George A. L'Homme, 565 Boswell Ave., Norwich, Conn.

152nd Inf, Co L—(Aug.) Ralph C. Lichtenwalter, 425 S. High St., Warsaw, Ind. 46580

157th Eng Combat Bn—(Aug.) Robert F. Seiler, Box 68, Jeannette, Pa. 15644

213th CAAA—(July) Heister J. Gingrich, 374 N. 10th St., Lebanon, Pa. 17042

229th Field Art'y Bn, B Bat (WW2)—(Sept.) William D. Smith, 2530 Mullooly St., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15227

240th Field Art'y Bn—(Sept.) Charles E. Hirsch, N. Cale St., Poseyville, Ind.
 273rd Field Art'y Bn (WW2)—(Aug.) Charles Bartlett, 3810 Dudley St., Lincoln, Nebr.
 301st Ord HM Co—(Aug.) Morris Kaplan, 1723 Park St., North Chicago, Ill.
 308th Motor Supply Train (WW1)—(Sept.) Norman A. Rebillot, 909 8th St. N.W., Canton, Ohio 44703
 314th Inf (WW1)—(Sept.) George E. Hentschel, 301 Penn Oak Rd., Flourtown, Pa. 19031
 327th Field Art'y (WW1)—(Sept.) Chas. A. Campbell, 407 S. Cherokee St., Taylorville, Ill.
 337th Field Art'y, Bat C (WW1)—(Sept.) J. E. Sessing, 3315 Beard Ave., Robbinsdale, Minn.
 338th Eng GS Reg't—(Aug.) Walter D. Berry, 5125 S. Latrobe, Chicago, Ill. 60638
 339th Inf Reg't (WW2)—(Aug.) C. C. Isely, P.O. Box 396, Columbia, Mo.
 344th Depot QM Co—(Aug.) Mrs. Robert F. Edwards, 223 N. Calvert, Muncie, Ind.
 351st Eng, Hq & Serv Co—(Sept.) D. K. Johnson, 313 S. 26th Ave., Bellwood, Ill. 60104
 355th Inf (WW1)—(Sept.) Albert P. Schwarz, 1732 E. Manor, Lincoln, Nebr.
 361st Eng Spec Serv Reg't—(Sept.) John A. Ziraft, 92 Morris Ave., Girard, Ohio 44420
 400th Arm'd Field Art'y—(Sept.) Charles A. Smith, 4195 N. Linda Dr., Bellbrook, Ohio
 513th Parachute Inf, Co A—(July) Reuben Linder, Rt. 2 Box 357, Jacksonville, Ark. 72076
 529th Field Art'y Bn—(Aug.) Mrs. Claude Crowe, R.R. 1, Mooresville, Ind.
 537th Ord Co, HMFA—(July) Lawrence Festa, 202 Knob Hill Dr., Hamden, Conn.
 550th Airborne Inf—(Sept.) Philip Cicchetti, 888 Tait Ave., Rochester, N.Y.
 553rd Eng Hvy Ponton Bn (WW2)—(Sept.) Leo J. Murphy, 19178 Georgia, Roseville, Mich.
 609th Tank Dct Bn—(Sept.) Don A. Vogt, P.O. Box 142, Geneva, N.Y. 14456
 625th Ord Ammo Co—(Sept.) Alfred J. Kawa, Craig Colony, Sonyea, N.Y. 14556
 627th QM—(Sept.) Eugene Cook, Galien, Mich.
 701st MP Bn, Co B—(July) Virgil Owens, 423 5th St. N.W., Waverly, Iowa.
 733rd Field Art'y Bn—(Sept.) John Luddy, 54 Fleetwood Dr., Waterbury, Conn. 06706
 809th Tank Dct Bn—(Sept.) Donald Gerspacher, 5309 N. Main St., Dayton, Ohio.
 970th Eng Maint Co—(July) E. E. Smith, Box 28005 L.V. Branch, Columbus, Ohio 43228
 977th Eng Maint Co—(Aug.) Emil W. Demsky, R.D. 1, Beach City, Ohio 44608
 2456th QM Truck Co—(July) Charles W. Mills, R.R. 3 Box 93J, Noblesville, Ind. 46060
 3820th QM Gas Sup Co—(Aug.) Dale M. Jamison, Wauke, Iowa.
 Nebraska Nat'l Guard, 35th Div, 110th QM—(Sept.) Elbert R. Walter, 101 S. Central, Rt. 4, Kearney, Nebr.
 Original 120's (WW1)—(Sept.) Ernest Rosseau, 300 Walnut St., Holyoke, Mass.
 Truck Assembly Plant #2 (Iran, WW2)—(Aug.) John M. McIntosh, 928 Wright Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43609

NAVY

10th Seabees—(Aug.) C. L. Frank, 6705 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla, Calif. 92037
 25th Special Seabees—(Aug.) Robert C. Park, 9208 Villa Dr., Bethesda, Md. 20034
 33rd Seabees—(Sept.) George M. Daumen, 66 Weston Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14215
 64th Seabees—(July) Mel Griffin, 5663 S. Pittsburg, Tulsa, Okla. 74135
 97th & 108th Seabees—(Sept.) Matt Robben, 1939 S. Battin, Wichita, Kans. 67218
 Nat'l Yeomen F—(Aug.) Estelle R. Ruby, 5425 30th Pl. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20015
 USS Barton (DO 722)—(Aug.) Jim Deters, 2605 Greenup St., Covington, Ky. 41014
 USS Genesee (WW1)—(Sept.) Carl H. Henrikson, 548 Churchill Rd., West Englewood, N.J.
 USS Neville—(July) Howard Carlington, 9052 Niles Ctr. Rd., Skokie, Ill. 60076

AIR

19th Bomb Gp, H (WW2)—(Aug.) Dean H. Anholt, 1611 Sherbrook Dr. N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa
 22nd Bomb Gp—(July) Verne Shrewsbury, 15747 Paseo Largavista, San Lorenzo, Calif.
 68th Fighter Sqdn—(July) Allen G. Roth, Rt. 1 Box 117, E. Southport Rd., Indianapolis, Ind.
 210th Aero Sqdn—(Aug.) H. S. Lewis, 806 E. Illinois St., Urbana, Ill.
 312th Bomb Gp (WW2)—(Aug.) Paul Stickel, 1126 Gray Ave., Greenville, Ohio.
 463rd Aero Sqdn (WW1)—(Sept.) Bill Scarrow, Box 6, Goodland, Kans. 67735
 529th Fighter Sqdn—(Aug.) Basil A. Herbst, R.R. 7, Brainerd, Minn.

MISCELLANEOUS

Canadian WAC (WW2)—(Aug.) Mrs. S. Heesaker, 201 Niagara St., Toronto 2B, Canada

PERSONAL

**JOB-WAGE BOOM.
 LOWER TRAVEL FARES.
 ACCIDENT DO'S AND DON'TS.**

Practically nobody is going to have trouble finding a job this summer, full time or part time. So if you have any students or college graduates in your family, don't worry about them. They are sure to get jobs at better rates than ever before.

COLLEGE GRADUATES this year can expect to start permanent positions at \$20 to \$30 per month more than last year. For men, that means a range of about \$6,500 to \$8,000 annually. For women, the figure is somewhat less (maybe by \$200 to \$1,000). Incidentally, graduates with higher degrees (M.A. and Ph.D.) can figure on around \$1,700 more than B.As.

PART TIMERS likewise will find work plentiful and wages good, especially in the manufacturing and construction industries (where the going was rough last year). [In fact, this year the factories actually are trying to outbid those longtime student standbys—the retailers and summer camps.]

Meantime, if your youngster gets a part-time job, remember that:

- He may need a work permit. Check your local laws.
- You can claim a full-time student as a tax exemption, regardless of his age, if you are his major support.
- Children under 19 and students must file an income-tax return if they make \$600 or more; but they don't have to pay a federal tax until they cross the \$900 mark.

★ ★ ★

By shopping around a little, you can get a variety of domestic travel reductions these days:

BUS: Greyhound has a Trav-L-Pass plan giving you 99 days of unrestricted travel for \$99, providing you pick your route when the ticket is purchased and move in a circular fashion (you can't pass any point a second time). Also: a 50% reduction on the return portion of a round-trip ticket (usable Monday through Friday); and a family plan by which one adult pays full fare and the rest 75% (this one also has certain restrictions on time and method).

AIRLINES: Many domestic airlines now have a 25% reduction on round-trip coach fares, if you start on certain days and don't return the same calendar week the trip began. For youngsters 12 to 21, a 50% fare reduction generally is in effect (except for a few peak periods) on a "stand-by" basis.

AUTO RENTALS: Most services now have special seven-day rates (usually \$99) and special weekend rates (\$15 plus mileage). [Otherwise, rental rates are about the same as last year, though keen competition has made some shading a possibility.]

★ ★ ★

Now that the heavy driving season is on, memorize some basic do's and don'ts about accidents. This simple list, says Travelers Insurance Companies, should cover most contingencies:

1. Get the cars off the road to prevent further pileups. If they can't be moved, try to set up a warning system.
2. Help any injured persons, providing you know how. If not, keep them warm and avoid moving them (except to get them out of danger). Get their names and addresses.
3. Call the police.
4. Don't be talkative or argumentative. Give the other driver only basic identification information.
5. Jot down all pertinent facts (time, damage to other vehicle, name of police officer) and names of witnesses (or their license numbers if they won't give their names).
6. Report the accident to your insurance company and the State Motor Vehicle Bureau.

—By Edgar A. Grunwald

IF WE SHOULD LEAVE VIETNAM . . . THEN WHAT?

(Continued from page 11)

But the new Red power center would have no such problems. By its mere birth it would cast threatening glances at three more neighbors which it has already long coveted. These are Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Malaysia includes Malaya and part of Borneo, a fairly new federation created out of British influence. Malaya (the similarity of its name to that of the whole federation can be confusing) is the long, thin arm hanging down from Southeast Asia, with the city of Singapore (once the most important Asiatic naval bastion of the British Navy) as the pearl at its end. Twenty years ago mainland Malaya was a prime target of the Communists. A strong Red-led guerrilla force in the thousands waged terrorist war against the then-British colony. It ended in defeat for the guerrillas in the 1950's. Today, the guerrilla remnants in the Malayan hills are beginning to stir again. Led by a Chinese Communist, Chin Peng, about 500 of them have been active along the border with Thailand. So far they have limited their activity to recruiting Thais of Malay ancestry for their ranks. But both the Thailand and Malaysian rulers have been alarmed enough to send a joint military force after them. In a crisis, their threat to Malaysia could be incalculable.

Red China is working toward such a crisis now. In January of this year it played host at a banquet in Peking for Malaya's "National Liberation League" and the "National Liberation Army of Malaya." The head of both of these groups, which are copies of the Liberation Front and the Viet Cong in Vietnam, is P.V. Sarma. In typical "Liberation" style, he called at the banquet for

"revolutionary violence" and a "people's revolutionary war" in Malaysia. China's vice chairman of the "Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity" promised Sarma "all-out support for the Malayan people in their persistent struggle against the 'reactionary' rule of the United States and the British 'imperialists,' and to crush Malaysia." Sarma repaid the compliment by denouncing the Soviet Union.

Communist hopes of taking the country have been revived also by the deadly rivalry between the Chinese and Malay populations of the region. There are about 4 million Chinese in and around the city-state of Singapore, and the same number of Malays in the federation outside. But there are another 2.7 million Chinese mixed in with the Malays outside of Singapore, and they hold the balance of power.

For two years, the Malay and Chinese leaders tried to live together in the Malaysian federation. But late in 1965 friction between the two led to Singapore's separation from the federation. Its leader, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, has been called a Communist-led traitor by the Malays. He denies it, but it is certain that many of his advisors are firm Communists, whose interest is not in independence but in Red power expansion in the area. The Chinese population in Malaysia and Singapore hence contains an important fifth column for Red Chinese aggression. It, like the rebel remnant in the hills, would take on sinister importance once the rest of Southeast Asia began falling into the Communist orbit.

Malaysia's destiny is closely tied to its large and powerful neighbor to the south—Indonesia. That island empire,

which was once the Dutch East Indies, is officially sworn under Sukarno's leadership to absorb all of Malaysia.

For the moment that threat is more show than action, but it could well flare up again if the once-huge power of Communism in Indonesia should stage a comeback.

Indonesia has provided a clear preview of what Asian Communism is up to. After years of building its strength to 3 million members, the Indonesian Communist Party tried, last October, to make the final step to complete a take-over. Prompt, bloody action by the Indonesian Army broke up the attempted coup, and the Red apparatus was badly shattered.

But the Communist potential remains. President Sukarno, whom the army could not dispense with, retains his strong pro-Communist sympathies and he has vowed that Indonesia will have a "Communist element" in its political structure. Though his own power has been drastically reduced, as long as he is still in office the chance that he will bring the Reds back into the government cannot be wholly ruled out.

Red centers of strength still exist in many of the islands that make up Indonesia. In central Java, leftist elements are still strong in the student organizations, and perhaps even stronger among the army divisions assigned to maintain order there. These elements still look to Sukarno for a return to power.

Though it cannot be proved with hard evidence, the Indonesian Army's firm stand against the Communist take-over attempt was in all probability encouraged by the presence of American power in Vietnam. This invisible psychological tie would be damaged and perhaps destroyed by a U.S. retreat from Vietnam, and a resurgent Communism might then rage unchecked in Indonesia.

The green light would then go up once again for both ends of the Indonesia-Red China axis to converge on the Philippines, long in the sights of both.

Americans commonly assume that the Philippines are "safe" as a U.S. friend and ally. Did we not modernize and develop the country after taking it out of Spain's tyrannical grip in 1898? Did we not then grant it independence in 1946, after spilling much American blood to retrieve it from the Japanese in WW2? Are not Filipinos and Americans united in the blood ties forged on Bataan and at Corregidor?

A new generation of Filipinos has come of age, and they know of these things only as "history." Some of that younger generation have been burning American flags, parading with placards reading "Deliver Us From Evil American Advisors," and, worse, staging hostile demonstrations at the big U.S.



"But if they do pull out of Viet Nam, what do we do with our spare time?"

airbase at Clark Field, 60 miles north of Manila. From being the "showplace" of American-style democracy in the Orient, the example of a land nourished and set free by an act of unforced generosity, the Philippines have become one more incubator of a Communist "liberation" virus.

Former Philippine President Diosdado Macapagal once proposed that the security, freedom and welfare of Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines depend, in the face of mainland ambitions, on their forming a friendship and economic union—which he gave the name "Maphilindo." But the leftist government of Indonesia countered that with claims of its own to the Philippines, based on the ancient Moslem empire that once covered the whole archipelago from the Indies almost to Formosa. To back up those claims, Indonesia has been sending into the Philippines what Macapagal called "wetbacks"—terrorists who join up with local militants and supply them with arms and anti-American propaganda.

Within the Philippines another Red anchor is sunk in the troubled provinces north of Manila and the rugged hills surrounding them. There, native rebels known as Hukbalahaps—"Huks," for short—are waging preparatory campaigns of violence and subversion strongly reminiscent of the Red-led depredations of the 1950's that paved the way for the present open warfare in South Vietnam.

Twenty years ago, the Huks posed the same kind of major threat to the newly-independent Philippine state as their counterparts did in Malaya. Armed and instructed by Chinese Communist cadres, they held large sections of the country in their grip. Military action defeated them on the field in 1952, psychological incentives brought their surrender and rehabilitation in large numbers, progress and reforms kept the few unregenerates powerless and bottled up in the hills.

Today, the Huks are back. They are still far from the menace they were in the late 1940's, but they are no longer powerless or silent. Huk activity is particularly strong around Angeles, just outside Clark Field. Their enforcers levy tolls on local businesses and their goons assassinate local officials who resist. It's estimated that they have about 15,000 backers and control as many as 100 localities, from which they guide militants throughout the Philippines.

Meanwhile, they have implanted centers of infection in the Philippine labor unions, youth groups and cultural organizations. The Youth of the Land and the Workers Union have shown impressive evidence of their strength in the "Hate America" demonstrations they have mounted in the heart of Manila.

Indonesian and Red Chinese money has helped finance these activities.

The new Huks have not yet assumed the label of a "Liberation Front," but in every other respect that is precisely what they are. In the event of an Asia-wide "oust the U.S." explosion, should an American victory in Vietnam become impossible, they would be in position to attack U.S. interests in the Philippines directly.

Would we back off from a Red guerrilla takeover of the Philippines? It is a question that goes hand-in-hand with leaving Vietnam.

Broadly, then, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines form a second "cluster" to be swept into the Red "liberation" bag after the first is secure. Like the separate pieces in the first, these three are all joined in a single nerve system and would suffer their fate as a unit. The Red nerves in this system are intimately tied into the main web in Indochina and Thailand. Shock or stimulation to one part is felt immediately in all other parts, whether it be the progress or the blocking of Red advances. Who would be the ultimate ruler of this second complex if it went Communist, or what roles Peking and Moscow would occupy in it, again remains to be seen. But what a Red wrap-up of all eight nations would do to the rest of Asia is in much less doubt.

JUST A GLANCE at the Far Eastern map shows at least eight more countries that would fall immediately into the shadow of this new staging area: Burma, India and Pakistan to the west; Formosa (Taiwan), Korea and Japan to the north; Australia and New Zealand to the south. The U.S. has major defense commitments to the last five named, and partial commitments to India and Pakistan. Yet it is at best questionable whether, with the rest of Asia already swallowed up by the Reds, either they or the United States Government and people would have much will to fight for what is left. A psychology of defeat and accommodation, akin to that of Vichy France, would gain converts in Asia and here. New growth of isolationist sentiment in the U.S., which is already evident now, could be expected—and that could be a real trump card of the Reds.

By then, too, the Chinese Communist nuclear arsenal would be actively deployed against all of Asia. Coupled with conventional thrusts by land armies filled with conscripts from the freshly acquired captive population, Peking's atom bomb blackmail could topple the remnants of psychological resistance.

First to be attacked would be Formosa and Korea, Peking's prime pieces of unfinished business. While Washington and

(Continued on page 40)

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the nation debated on whether to respond, quisling regimes might come into power and make the decision for us. India would not be far behind. Communist China still has many friends there. Someone like Krishna Menon, whom the late Prime Minister Nehru reluctantly removed from the spotlight when the Chinese attacked India in 1962, would come forward.

Finally, the U.S. could elect to make a stand in Japan and/or Australia-New Zealand.

In 1970, our present treaty with Japan will be up for revision. Even as things now are, our friends in Japan will be hard pressed by the Japanese left to write a new treaty ousting American influence and installations from Japan proper to Okinawa. The more our position from Vietnam through the Philippines is then crumbling, the less favorable is our new Japanese treaty apt to be for us. Thus far the deeply entrenched left-wingers in Japan have been kept under control by pro-U.S. governments, though they have been strong enough to convince us that we should not use bases in Japan or Okinawa for staging B-52 bombing attacks on the Reds in Vietnam, but the bases on Guam farther to the east.

Despite its loyalty to the U.S., the Japanese Government has been strongly attracted to increased trade with Communist China. Businessmen have agreed not to ship in militarily important materials, but they have insisted on trying to do as much other business as possible. An expansion of Communist power in Asia and the western Pacific and a decline of U.S. influence there would put great pressure on Japan to accommodate further the growing Chinese power. If she chose to resist, it would be from a weaker posture than present U.S. support provides.

Australia and New Zealand, by themselves, are too remote to serve any useful purpose in an American withdrawal except as the sites of a last ditch stand in their defense. In WW2, they were a springboard for a policy of advance in Asia. But they are only a stopping-off place for a policy of retreat. The Aussies and New Zealanders realize this so well that their governments are among the few that have sent token fighting forces to Vietnam. Meanwhile, the growing Communist power to the north has increased the number of Australians who, fearful of an eventual loss of U.S. backing, listen to leftist cries of the need to accommodate the Reds—as Vice President Humphrey noted in his February trip Down Under. Thus does mere talk of American softness in Vietnam tend to undermine the pinnings of our present policy firmness.

Finally, we come to the world-wide situation. The Red “liberation” plans only begin with Asia, they do not end there. Even the South Vietnamese “Liberation Front” has offices in Algiers and Havana, as well as in Peking and Moscow. These are ports of entry for spreading Asian-tested revolutionary warfare through Africa and Latin America.

To take the most recent example, in January 1966, Fidel Castro played host to a “Tri-Continental Congress” of 500 delegates from Asia, Africa and Latin America. Here, for the first time, the intimate links between Asian and Latin American revolution became clear. In addition to charting revolts for Latin America, the Congress set up a “Latin American Commission to Aid Vietnam.” Viet Cong instructors are training Latin American guerrillas, in return for munitions and other help sent from Castro’s Soviet-stocked arsenals to the Vietnam war. This two-way deal complements the mutual flow of men and arms that has for a long while gone on between Cuba and the revolution-torn African spots in Zanzibar, Portuguese Africa and the Congo.

At Havana, in January, Soviet and Chinese representatives stood together on the platform. Any suggestion of their notorious “rivalry” was well muted as all the participants in the Congress plunged into their shared labors of trouble-making for the free world. Though Castro has had his public differences with both Red Big Brothers, they weren’t apparent at the Congress or in his appeal to terrorists everywhere on Feb. 2 to “sabotage Yankee interests in all parts of the world.”

THE FUTURE HISTORY of these plans must record the outcome of the Vietnam struggle as their turning point. A Red defeat there will put them in deep shock, a Vietnam success will set them soaring.

There is no way, of course, to say how far all of the matters reviewed here would run if we should leave Vietnam. It would depend on our response, and that of the rest of the free world, to the initial disaster, and to the next Red aggressions. The rest of the free world might be shocked out of much of its complacency into a far more massive confrontation with Communism than is taking place in Vietnam. It is hard to believe that the U.S. would not make a stand at any cost rather than see the Philippines and Australia delivered to Red domination, while at some point Britain, seeing Malaysia, Burma, Pakistan and India threatened, must get its back up too. As President Johnson said, Vietnam would be swapped for “new battlefields.”

We have the assurance of the Communists that wherever we leave a hole, to the limit of the land area of the earth, they will fill it and then put pressure on us to back off some more, if we will.

Such a process can only be stopped by choosing an absolute point at which the free world’s stand is “thus far and no farther.” In what respects is Vietnam such a point? The military and political disadvantages of a U.S. retreat from Vietnam are obvious from the foregoing. But the decisive factor is the loss of belief in American will by friend and neutral alike, by which abandonment of Vietnam would make more difficult a later stand elsewhere. This psychological factor is the hardest for Americans to understand, and it is the one that the Administration has had the most trouble trying to explain. The popular tendency is to write off warnings of future Communist attacks as looking under the bed for Soviet and Chinese “blueprints for conquest,” which are usually dismissed as mostly bluster for the record.

AS A MATTER of fact, the Soviets and Chinese have run afoul of local resentments in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. In recent months new blows have fallen on Communist positions in Indonesia, Kenya and Ghana—and at least on the Chinese in Cuba. But if this suggests that the psychology of American support is not so necessary after all, it is a fact that most defiance of the Communist master planners has occurred under the American protective umbrella. Every neutral that has flirted with Communism, from huge India to tiny Guatemala, has understood that the U.S. could reliably be counted on in a showdown. In 1962, India virtually ran to the U.S. for help after its years of playing ball with Peking culminated in a Chinese attack on its borders. Under their rules of local politics, these nations rarely said openly that they leaned on U.S. support. But small-nation diplomats were authoritatively said to have urged U.S. representatives privately, both at the time of the Dominican Republic intervention and during President Johnson’s peace-finding effort in 1965, not to yield to Communist force.

This largely hidden world-wide reliance on us by free nations does not require that we destroy the Communist power in North Vietnam, China or the Soviet Union. But if we fail to turn back the “war of liberation” aggression against South Vietnam it will leave the lesser nations of the world in the position of a child who suddenly loses his parents, and it literally will force them to mend their fences with the Communists. Starting in Thailand, it will shake our position around the globe.

THE END

If you are a veteran— a board of doctors will send you free:

1. A VETERAN'S PERSONAL RECORD CARD that may actually help others save your life in event of a medical emergency.

2. AN INFORMATION KIT on a remarkable new "bonus" health plan that—

- ☆ Pays extra cash direct to you when you are hospitalized
- ☆ Pays a big lump-sum cash "bonus" if you should become permanently disabled
- ☆ Actually pays money to help keep you in the best possible health!

If you hold an honorable discharge from the Armed Forces of the U.S., are not now on active duty, and do not receive a VA disability pension or compensation, you can now qualify for what could well be the most important set of benefits offered to you since you were discharged.

These extra cash benefits are especially important now—in your thirties, forties or fifties—the "danger years" when serious illnesses are far more likely to strike. That is why a board of doctors is extending this unusual offer.

Simply by mailing the form below, you may receive—without cost or obligation—a Veteran's Personal Record Card to carry with you at all times—and an Information Kit giving you all the facts about a remarkable new "bonus" health plan that pays extra cash direct to you when you're hospitalized—pays you a big lump-sum cash "bonus" if you should become permanently disabled—and, for the first time, *actually pays money to help keep you well!*

Like most veterans you probably already carry some form of health insurance. But, as everyone knows, the most complete hospital insurance—even Medicare—simply doesn't cover everything.

The "hidden costs" of hospitalization

Think for a moment—if you're a *husband, father and breadwinner*, and you're suddenly hospitalized, what happens? Your income stops. Your expenses go up. Even if you have some kind of "salary insurance" it probably won't come close to replacing your full-time pay. It's quite likely that you and your family will never fully recover the *tremendous financial loss!*

What happens if you're permanently disabled?

If, through accident or illness, you should have the misfortune to become permanently disabled, you stand to lose everything you have worked so hard to get—your home, your car, your possessions. All the plans you have made for your family and the education of your children could be destroyed. You could face years of heavy medical expense with little or nothing to fall back on!

Veterans Benefit Plan protects you these three important ways

Doctors know from firsthand experience how these "hidden costs" can shatter a

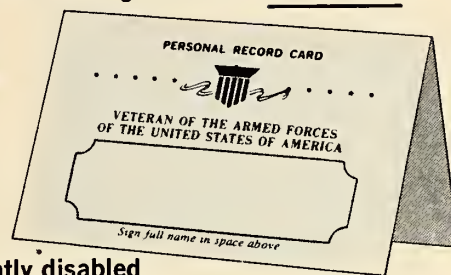
family's security! Yet in the "middle years" when the danger of illness is greatest, it may be difficult to get the extra protection you need at a price you can afford. Or, because of the condition of your health, you may not be able to obtain it at any price! So now a board of doctors has created the Veterans Benefit Plan—a *new and different* way to give you this extra protection!

1. *It pays extra cash direct to you when you are hospitalized!* You and you alone decide how to use this tax-free, expense-free money—how much to spend and how much to save. And these valuable cash benefits are paid to you *in addition* to any other health insurance you have—group or individual—even Medicare.
2. *It pays you extra cash in one big lump-sum if you become permanently disabled.* Consider what a lifesaver this could be toward wiping out large debts, paying for your children's education, or reducing the mortgage.
3. *It provides money each year toward a physical exam to help keep you in the best possible health!* Your doctor will tell you that people who have regular physical exams have a better chance to stay well and live longer. (Cancer, for example, is easier to cure if caught in its early stages.) The Veterans Benefit Plan gives you that "better chance" during your "danger years." And, if illness should strike after all, the cash benefits are there to help you through this difficult period.

Yet, because all details are handled by mail and no salesmen are used, our sales costs are lower. That's why you can benefit from this valuable protection *at a cost so low it will astonish you!*

Offered by a private "doctors company"

This remarkable plan is offered by the Physicians Mutual Insurance Company of Omaha, Nebraska—the famous "doctors company" that has specialized in health and accident protection for physicians, surgeons and dentists across America for 63 years. Doctors right in your own community know about us. Your own doctor may actually be insured by Physicians Mutual. (If this is the first you have heard of Physicians Mutual, it is probably because this is one of the very few offerings we have made outside of the medical profession.)



HOW THIS CARD CAN HELP YOU (and may even help others save your life!)

If you become injured or ill, this card will quickly help locate your family or friends and your personal physician. It immediately identifies you as a veteran and gives your service number, VA claim number and other vital service information. It tells of your special health problems, your blood type, your immunization record, your allergies and of the care and medicines you must have immediately if you are ill or unconscious or unable to speak.

No branch, department, or instrumentality of the United States Government has any connection with this Plan or with Physicians Mutual. No veterans organization is in any way connected with this offering.

New enrollment coming up! Mail coupon now!

A Limited Enrollment will begin shortly. If we receive your name in time, you—as a qualified veteran—will be eligible to join without any red tape whatsoever. Don't miss this special limited enrollment opportunity. Mail the coupon today for your free Personal Record Card and the free Information Kit that gives you all the facts and explains how easy it is to enroll in the Veterans Benefit Plan.

Remember: No salesman will call to "sell" you. The decision to enroll is entirely up to you. So mail the coupon today to: Veterans Benefit Plan, Physicians Mutual Insurance Company, 115 South 42nd Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131.

Veterans Benefit Plan		60388
Physicians Mutual Insurance Company		
115 South 42nd Street		
Omaha, Nebraska 68131		
Please rush my (1) free Personal Record Card and (2) free Information Kit on the Veterans Benefit Plan. I understand there is no obligation and no salesman will call.		
Name _____		
Address _____		
City _____		
State _____		Zip Code _____

nity to menace our merchantmen again.

The *Constitution*, now the flagship of Commodore Edward Preble, sailed for the Mediterranean. Preble also had the frigate *Philadelphia*, 36 guns, and smaller warships, captained by officers under 30. His total force of 1,000 men compared unfavorably to the corsairs' 25,000.

Disaster struck when the *Philadelphia* went aground off Tripoli. The pirates seized her and imprisoned the captain, William Bainbridge, and the 300-man crew. Preble now had lost one-third of his firepower before the campaign had fairly begun.

On board the *Constitution*, a promising young officer by the name of Stephen Decatur came up with a plan to destroy the *Philadelphia* which Lord Nelson was to call "the most bold and daring act of the age."

Under cover of darkness, Decatur and a group of volunteers rowed a ketch under the heavy guns of the fort into the Tripolitan harbor. Within 20 minutes, the raiding party had set the *Philadelphia* ablaze. It blew up when the flames reached her armory. Decatur and his men escaped unharmed.

During the next months, the *Constitution* bombarded the Barbary strongholds, the first time her long 24's and carronades had seen action. Her hull and masts took some grapeshot and her figurehead of Hercules was damaged.

The pirates sued for peace and a treaty was signed aboard the *Constitution* on June 3, 1805.

HARDLY HAD WE solved the Barbary problem than we were at war with Great Britain; a war which many historians say was one of the most unfortunate events in our history. The country was divided and unprepared for war, especially one against the colossus of the seven seas. The Royal Navy had not lost a single ship action for nine years. Without waiting for orders, 37-year-old Captain Isaac Hull got the *Constitution* away from the Washington Navy Yard.

Hull intended to join Commodore John Rodgers' squadron somewhere off New York. At 2 p.m., July 17, 1812, the *Constitution* was just north of Atlantic City, N.J., when the lookout sighted four ships to the north.

At 4 p.m., the *Constitution* sighted a fifth ship, reinforcing Hull's belief that he had fallen in with Rodgers. The fifth ship, however, was the English frigate, *Guerrière*, 49 guns, commanded by cocky 28-year-old James R. Dacres who had challenged any American frigate "to a few minutes tête-à-tête." Before the war, Hull and Dacres had speculated who would emerge victorious if the *Constitu-*

tion and *Guerrière* ever met in battle. A hat was wagered on the outcome.

The other four ships sighted by the *Constitution* also were enemy ships, the 64-gun *Africa*, the *Shannon* and *Belvidera*, both 38's, and the 32-gun frigate, *Aeolus*.

Then the wind fell off and all six lay becalmed in the gathering twilight while their captains debated whether they had fallen in with friend or foe.

By dawn, however, the ships had



"Oh, I get it. **FIRST** I get a job, and then—"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

drifted so close that there was no doubt that the Britishers had an American in their midst. Taking advantage of the morning breeze which did not immediately favor the *Constitution*, they went after the American warship. Hull had already broken out every sail and was trumpeting his men to greater exertions to take advantage of the least breeze they could catch.

But the Britishers drew ominously closer to the *Constitution*. By 4 p.m., the English pack was joined by a brig and a schooner.

Hull ordered the men into the shrouds with pails of water to drench the sails to close the texture of the canvas. Wet sails would hold the breeze better. Hull also ordered 2,300 gallons of fresh water pumped overboard to lighten the *Constitution*.

The chase continued relentlessly throughout the night. At 8 a.m., 24 hours after the pursuit began, the *Shannon* furled her sails and put out boats to tow her. The *Shannon* edged almost within range, until a sudden gust of wind pushed the *Constitution* forward.

The *Constitution's* First Lieutenant, Charles Morris, reminded Hull of a method for moving a ship by kedging: a line of rope with an anchor at the end could be extended far ahead of the *Constitution* by men in boats. When the kedge anchor was dropped overboard, other crewmen could haul on the ropes and gradually draw the ship up to the anchor.

EVERY PIECE OF cable aboard the *Constitution* was quickly joined into two lines. Two boats went out with two anchors which were dropped. The crew hauled in on them. As the *Constitution* drew forward, the process was repeated.

The *Belvidera*, seeing what the *Constitution* was doing, began to kedge, too.

Throughout the day, the *Constitution's* crew bent to their work; their backs glistening in the blazing summer heat, their muscles aching and their heads throbbing from exertion.

At 6 o'clock that night, Hull saw an approaching rain squall and was struck by an idea. He gave orders that the sails were to be shortened the instant the storm struck. Hull instructed the crew to exaggerate their movements aloft to give the British the impression that the Americans were confused.

The trick worked. The British, noticing the Americans apparently frantic while making ready for the approaching blow, themselves shortened sail and scattered. When the squall struck, Hull quickly made sail and picked up an entire mile on his pursuers before they could regroup.

By dawn of the following day, after being under the enemy's guns for nearly four days, the British were hull down to leeward. The *Constitution* returned to Boston for more water.

Fearful of being blockaded, Hull quickly got the *Constitution* to sea again without waiting for orders. (When the orders did arrive they told him to stay in port.)

At 2 o'clock on the afternoon of August 19, some 600 miles east of Boston, the masthead lookout sighted a sail. The *Constitution* bore off to intercept. An hour later, there was no mistaking the fact that the sails were those of the *Guerrière*.

Hull leaped up on the rail to get a better view. In so doing, it is said, he ripped the seat of his pants clear up the back.

The *Guerrière's* shots now hit home. A gunner fell dead on the spar deck. Still Hull was not ready to give the order to fire. The gunners were impatient. Matches glowed red, ready to be put to the cannon touch-holes.

"The Stars and Stripes never floated

more proudly than they did at that moment," wrote Moses Smith, the sponger of No. 1 gun on the *Constitution*, in his memoirs, "Naval Scenes in the Last War." "... Every man stood firm at his post.

"No firing at random!" cried Hull. "Let every man look well to his aim. ... Now close with them!" cried Hull.

"A whole broadside from our guns followed this command," said Smith. "The *Constitution* shook from stem to stern. ... But no one was hurt by the recoil of the guns. ... We instantly followed the thunder of our cannon with three loud cheers, which ... floated away rapidly to the ears of the enemy. ..."

"When the smoke cleared after the first broadside, we saw that we had cut off the mizzen mast of the *Guerrière*, and that her main yard had been shot from the slings. Her mast and rigging were hanging in great confusion over the sides, and dashing against her on the waves. This discovery was followed by cheers from the *Constitution*. ..."

The *Guerrière's* return broadsides were fired faster than the *Constitution's*, but many of the Britisher's shots passed too high. Dacres ordered his gun crews to lower elevations. By 6:05 p.m., whole broadsides were thundering into the *Constitution*.

"Several shots now entered our hull," Smith wrote. "One of the largest the enemy could command struck us, but the plank was so hard it fell out and sank in the waters. This was afterwards noticed, and the cry arose:

"Huzza! Her sides are made of iron! See where the shot fell out."

And thus was born the nickname, "Old Ironsides," although no one has ever been able to say exactly who aboard the *Constitution* was responsible for the remark.

At 6:20 p.m., Hull put the *Constitution's* helm hard aport to cross the *Guerrière's* bow to rake. She did not swing as fast as Hull desired and the *Constitution's* mizzen rigging became entangled in the *Guerrière's* bowsprit. Old Ironsides' guns, nevertheless, boomed again and again, pouring a murderous hail of grape and shot along the *Guerrière's* decks.

Before the two crews could be joined in hand-to-hand combat, the ships separated. The *Constitution* wore around the *Guerrière's* bow as the enemy ship's fore and main masts toppled overboard. The *Guerrière* was now hopelessly crippled.

Dacres fired a shot to leeward; a signal of surrender. The *Guerrière* had suffered 15 killed and 63 wounded; the *Constitution* only seven dead and seven wounded.

As Dacres came aboard the *Constitution*, Hull went to meet him. "Dacres, my dear fellow, I am glad to see you on board."

"Damnit, Hull," said Dacres, "I suppose you are." With that Dacres began to unbuckle his sword to present it to Hull as the accepted token of surrender.

"I will not take a sword from one who knows so well how to use it," said Hull, "but I tell you, Dacres, I will trouble you for that hat." How much of this incident is apocryphal is lost in the repeated tellings.

The *Guerrière* was found to be too badly hulled to be towed to Boston. Hull burned her and headed back to Boston with his prisoners to report his victory.

The news could not have come at a better time to bolster the sagging morale of the United States. Hull learned that his uncle, Gen. William Hull, had surrendered Detroit a few days earlier without firing a shot.



"I had a hunch you were a newly-wed."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Boston went wild with celebrations over Old Ironsides' victory.

Hull led a victory parade up Boston's State Street. Seventeen toasts were drunk at a dinner in Faneuil Hall. Congress voted \$50,000 prize money for Hull and his men.

The London Times struck a significant note when it observed: "He must be a weak politician who does not see how important the first triumph is in giving a tone and character to the war."

The *Constitution* sailed for sea again on August 27 for the South Atlantic trade routes. Her captain was Commodore William Bainbridge.

After four months of tedious cruising, the *Constitution's* unhappy crew despaired of glory under Bainbridge when, at 9 o'clock on the morning of December 29, 1812, the *Java*, a 38-gun frigate captained by Royal Navy Captain Henry Lambert, was sighted 30 miles east of the island of San Salvador in the Bahamas.

By 2 o'clock the battle was joined. Forty minutes later they stood pounding each other broadside-to-broadside. It was soon apparent, however, that the battle would be a bloodier repetition of the *Guerrière* affair.

A laconically vivid picture of the battle is provided by Bainbridge's own journal account:

"... At three the head of the enemy's bowsprit and jib-boom were shot away by us. At five minutes past three, shot away the enemy's foremast by the board. At fifteen minutes past three, shot away his main top mast just above the cap. At forty minutes past three, shot away the gaff and spanker boom. At fifty-five minutes past three, shot away his mizzenmast nearly by the board."

Within two hours, Captain Lambert lay mortally wounded and about 48 of his crew were killed and wounded. Casualties aboard Old Ironsides were relatively light: 12 killed and 22 hurt. The *Java* was burned after everything salvageable was removed, including her mail pouches. (The mail was not opened until the spring of 1926, when it was found in an obscure corner of the Navy Department.)

The British Admiralty immediately issued an order forbidding any English frigate of 18-pounders from engaging the *Constitution* or other American frigate of 24 guns, if action could be avoided.

Capt. Charles Stewart relieved Bainbridge at Boston and the *Constitution* slipped past the blockaders. The *Constitution* was by now the most popular ship in the Navy.

But pickings were slim. The monotony was not helped when Stewart heard, but could not verify, that peace had been reached.

EARLY IN THE afternoon of February 20, 1813, three days after peace had indeed been signed, the *Constitution* was cutting through the seas several hundred miles northeast of the Madeira Islands when two British ships, the *Cyane*, a frigate of 34 guns, and the 21-gun sloop *Levant*, were sighted.

Several hours later the battle was joined on a moonlit sea over which a light mist hovered. Soon thick clouds of gunsmoke formed to the leeward of the ships as they whaled at each other. The British fought valiantly, but it was the superb seamanship of Stewart and the stout hull of Old Ironsides which decided the battle.

Running and backing from one ship to another, Stewart alternately battered the *Cyane* and the *Levant*.

The *Constitution* was the naval hero of the war. Of all the frigates, she inflicted the most damage to the British and
(Continued on page 44)

THE STORY OF OLD IRONSIDES, AMERICA'S MOST BELOVED FIGHTING SHIP

(Continued from page 43)

from that standpoint is credited with helping to end impressment and to guarantee our right to freedom on the high seas.

On July 19, 1828, Old Ironsides was taken out of service at the Boston Navy Yard.

Two years later, a naval commission examined Old Ironsides and found her in such bad decay that it recommended she be broken up and sold for scrap. In Boston at that time there was a student at Dane Law School who had just turned 21. His name was Oliver Wendell Holmes, a young man of intense patriotism.

When Holmes read that the *Constitution* was to be junked, he penned a poem which he called, "Old Ironsides." It was written on a piece of scrap paper and sent to the Boston Advertiser newspaper which published it, September 16, 1830:

"OLD IRONSIDES"

"Ay, tear her tattered ensign down!
Long has it waved on high,
And many an eye has danced to see
That banner in the sky;
Beneath it rung the battle shout,
And burst the cannon's roar;—
The meteor of the ocean air
Shall sweep the clouds no more!

Her deck, once red with heroes' blood,
Where knelt the vanquished foe,
When winds were hurrying o'er the
flood,
And waves were white below,
No more shall feel the victor's tread,
Or know the conquered knee;—
The harpies of the shore shall pluck
The eagle of the sea!

Oh, better that her shattered hulk
Should sink beneath the wave;
Her thunders shook the mighty deep,
And there should be her grave;
Nail to the mast her holy flag,
Set every threadbare sail,
And give her to the god of storms,
The lightning and the gale!"

The poem stirred the public to action. Hundreds of indignant letters flooded the desks of Congressmen. Other papers copied it. The Navy Department order was revoked and Congress appropriated money to make Old Ironsides shipshape again.

Reconstruction was under way when President Andrew "Old Hickory" Jackson was welcomed to Boston. Capt. Jesse D. Elliott, commander of the Navy Yard, hit upon the idea to mount a figurehead of President Jackson on Old Ironsides. Elliott commissioned Laban S. Beecher, a skilled Boston woodcarver, to make the life-sized figure.

The opposition party, the Whigs, rose up in fury. Elliott refused to back down. A group of Bostonians tried to buy off Beecher. Failing, they threatened to tar-

and-feather Beecher and Elliott, too.

At last the figurehead was completed and was taken under heavy guard to the Navy Yard and put in place. Jackson was shown in a dress suit, bareheaded, and with a large cloak over his shoulders. The President's right hand was extended and held a roll of manuscript on which was inscribed, "Our Federal Union, It Must be Preserved." Jackson's left hand was tucked in the breast of his waistcoat.

Following new threats, Elliott posted a Marine guard in front of the *Constitution's* bow. Extra cutlasses and boarding pikes were issued.



"How do I know who operated on me?—
They were all wearing masks."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Several weeks later, a young merchant captain, Samuel Worthington Dewey, overheard William Lincoln, co-operator of a counting house, say, "I would give \$100 to see that figurehead cut off."

Dewey waited until the night of July 2, 1834, when a driving rain, thunder and lightning storm scudded the clouds over the moon. Dewey put a saw, two eye bolts and a length of rope into a rowboat at Billy Gray's Wharf. Muffling the oars with a wool comforter, he rowed across the Charles River to the Navy Yard.

WORKING AROUND the *Constitution*, Dewey climbed the man-ropes above the Marine sentry huddled in his post. He crept out along the bowsprit, screwed one eyebolt in Jackson's right ear and another in the left ear.

Dewey rigged a harness with the rope. Lying on his back directly under the figurehead, he waited for the next thunder clap when he made a stroke with the saw at the neck. He hit a bolt. At the

next clap, Dewey began again; this time at the chin. With each thunderclap, Dewey sawed. At last the head of Jackson came off.

Dewey put the head in a coffee sack and rowed back to the wharf. He hid the head in a champagne basket in his mother's woodshed on Gooch Street, West End, and went to bed.

At daybreak the sentry looked up and discovered that President Jackson had been decapitated. Boston was alternately jubilant or somber, depending upon political leanings. In Washington, President Jackson is reported to have regarded the incident as a joke. "I never did like that image," he is quoted as saying. "Give the man (who cut off my head) a postmaster's job."

The secret of the culprit's identity was too good to keep. Dewey became the man of the Whig's hour. Whether he ever collected the \$100 is lost to history.

A dinner club was formed and Jackson's head was used as the centerpiece. Dewey took the head to Washington to give to Jackson. Finding the President ill, Dewey gave the head to the flustered Secretary of the Navy. The Jacksonian figurehead is today on display at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis.

Today, a fiddlehead, so named because it closely resembles the scroll on the head of a violin, is on Old Ironsides' bow, and the billet that replaced Andrew Jackson in 1906 is on display aboard the ship.

Once again at sea, Old Ironsides' last cruise as a fighting ship came in 1852 when she searched for slave ships in the Mediterranean and caught one slaver.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, the *Constitution* was a school ship at Norfolk, Va., and barely escaped when the yard was destroyed by the Union on April 20-21, 1861. Her sister ship, the *United States*, berthed near her, was not so lucky and was sunk.

Old Ironsides was now the only remaining frigate of the original six. The *Chesapeake* had been captured by the British in June 1813, and broken up in England seven years later. The *President* was captured off New York in 1815 by the British and broken up two years later. The *Congress* was broken up at Norfolk in 1836, and the *Constellation* in 1854.

Following the Civil War, Old Ironsides was rebuilt as a training ship for Annapolis midshipmen. Later, her towering masts were taken down and a barn-like structure was added to her spar deck so that she resembled a houseboat.

In this ignominious condition she remained as a receiving ship at Portsmouth, N.H. The *Constitution* had to be towed to Boston in 1897 for the 100th anniversary celebration of her launching.

She remained in Boston for the next eight years, a rotting hulk with paint

peeling from her houseboat-slatted sides.

In 1905 a Naval board of inquiry decided that Old Ironsides was hopelessly decayed and recommended that she be towed to sea and used as a target for the guns of the Atlantic Fleet. Public reaction was similar to that following Holmes' poem 75 years before. Congress appropriated \$100,000 in 1906 to rebuild her.

But the *Constitution* had too long been permitted to rot. By 1925, she was in poor shape again. While additional reconstruction work was authorized by Congress, the act said most of the expense would have to be met by popular subscription.

The public response resulted in one of the greatest outpourings of support in the nation's history. One million lithographs of Old Ironsides were sold. Souvenirs from the ship and copper bolts were auctioned. Paramount Pictures released a movie, "Old Ironsides," to raise more money. School children contributed pennies. Between 35 million and 50 million people anted more than \$600,000 and Congress voted an additional \$300,000.

On June 16, 1927, Old Ironsides went into dry dock at Boston. Where to find live-oak was again a problem until someone recalled that 500,000 board feet of it had been stored 74 years before in Commodore's Pond at the Pensacola, Fla., Naval Reservation. The advent of iron sailing ships had ended the need for it. A check showed it was still there.

On October 8, 1930, the new Old Ironsides, gleaming in her coat of black-and-white paint, moved into the waters of the Charles River on the occasion of the National Convention of the American Legion in Boston. Thousands of Legionnaires lined the shore and crowded into launches to escort her down the harbor in company with four tugs, five cruisers, six destroyers and a submarine.

When Old Ironsides returned to Boston on May 7, 1934, from a cruise visit to 90 U.S. cities, she took up permanent residence at the Naval shipyard. Since 1940, when she was put back in commission, the *Constitution* has been the flagship of the Commandant, First Naval District.

Today, her decks contain a display of memorabilia, including the Paul Revere letter, racks of cutlasses, cannon balls, muskets, boarding pikes and cannons.

STANDING GUARD over her is a crew of 44 men and one officer. Their duties include the escort of touring school children. The duty section sleeps on board for security reasons and the remainder live in nearby barracks.

Visiting hours are from 9:30 to 4 p.m. every day. There is no admission charge.

There are two annual highlights aboard the *Constitution*. The first, usually in late June, sees Old Ironsides turned 180 degrees at her berth so that both sides of her will be equally exposed to the elements. The second event is her birthday when a cake-cutting or appropriate ceremony is held every October 21.

The esteem in which all Americans hold the *U.S.S. Constitution* was echoed by the Rt. Rev. Charles Slattery, Bishop of Massachusetts, who spoke when Old Ironsides entered drydock for her reconstruction in 1927:

"We do not consider our national treasures to be in the great modern buildings which tower . . . in the sky, nor in the uncounted millions of our commercial princes. . . .

"We find our treasures in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, and the good ship *Constitution*, which today takes on a new life and will become, we trust, an inspiration to our children and our children's children."

THE END



"Look out for buttons."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

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LIGHTNING ON THE PROWL

(Continued from page 15)

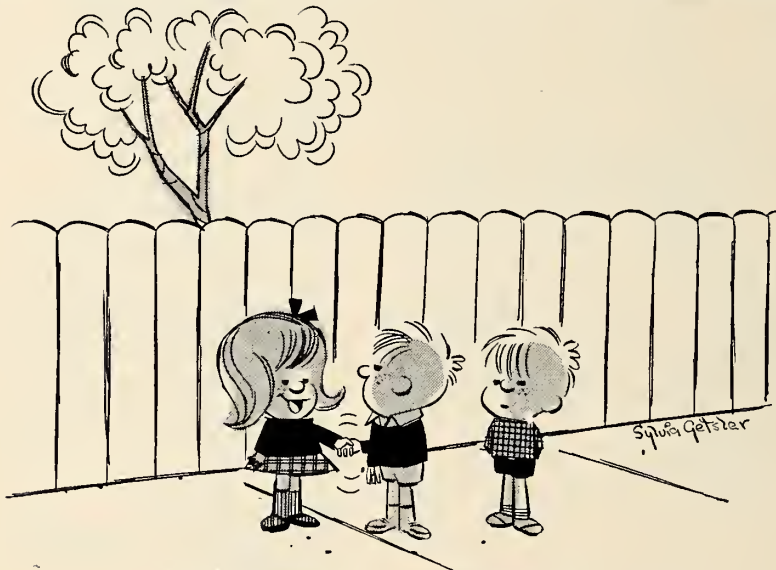
tive and negative charges become concentrated. Lightning occurs in three ways—between charges within a swelling cumulus cloud, between two clouds, or between a cloud and the earth."

Cloud-to-earth lightning bolts are usually of short length, since the bases of thunderstorms often sweep almost to the ground. On the other hand, discharges within clouds can reach for tremendous distances. A few years ago a radar scope centered on a Missouri thunderstorm picked up a cloud-to-cloud bolt that is the longest recorded by man. From start to finish it traveled 100 miles.

The manner in which large, opposite electrical charges are separated in the

start with a thin leader from the clouds reaching downward at 243 miles per second, until suddenly a mighty ionized streamer breaks from the earth and rises at the tremendous speed of 61,400 miles per second to blend with the slower moving leader. There is a blinding flash caused by the air being ionized, as an electrified pipeline about six inches in diameter is formed, along which a deluge of electrons flows. Then comes the explosive sound of thunder caused by the rapid expansion and immediate collapse, under atmospheric pressure, of the air in the path of the lightning bolt.

A single bolt of lightning generates a temperature that may exceed 1,800°



"Very pleased to make your allowance."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

atmosphere is not wholly understood, but it is associated with the rapid condensation of many minute vapor particles (with their electrical charges) into fewer and larger water and ice droplets and their up-and-down dislocation in vertical air currents. This is precisely the condition when overheated, moist surface air rises rapidly to cooler levels, as it may on a hot summer day on a purely local basis. And when a cold weather front underruns hot, moist air on a summer day, it may lift the surface air along a vast front, creating what is called a line storm.

Whenever the cloud base builds an enormous voltage opposite to the earth's charge, the cloud invariably unloads ground lightning.

It takes less than half a second for lightning to flash from cloud to earth—and sometimes less than a thousandth of a second. The propellers of night-flying airplanes have appeared to stand still in lightning flashes, so brief can their duration be. Many strokes have been found to

Centigrade. Lightning striking beaches often fuses sand into glass, creating strange, glassy, root-like formations called fulgurites. In this line the state of New Jersey scored again. The longest fulgurite ever found in America came from the beach at South Amboy. It was 9 feet in length.

In June 1935, just outside of Dodge, Nebr., a bolt drilled an 8-inch-wide hole 15 feet deep in a field and fused the clay walls into a substantial casing all the way down.

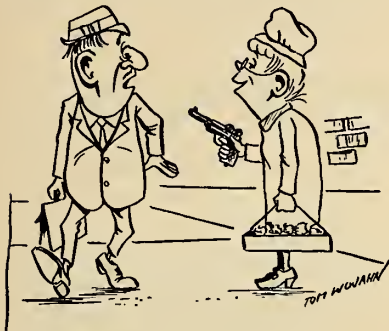
Lightning tends to take the shortest distance from the clouds to a conductor that will ground it in the earth. Air itself is a poor conductor of electricity until it is ionized fully. Consequently, lightning frequently tags such tall objects as church spires and trees. Photographers who want to photograph lightning almost have a sure thing if they leave their lenses open during a night storm, focussed on New York's Empire State Building. It attracts a virtual laboratory collection of bolts for the study of lightning. The sky-

scraper is engineered to ground all the "sparks" it absorbs annually without overly disturbing the tenants. Between 1937 and 1940, scientific studies were made of 49 strokes hitting the Empire State Building. That's a fine example of the falsity of the old myth that "lightning never strikes twice in the same place." Another common misconception is that "heat lightning," a dim flickering often seen in the sky on a summer night, is a thing unto itself. It is merely the flashing of a far distant thunderstorm. If "heat lightning" appears in the western sky it may foretell a local storm in a matter of hours, since most storms in the United States move from west to east.

NOT MANY NEW homes built today have lightning rods installed, though lightning ranks with the leading causes of fires. Lightning rods work efficiently by (a) reaching high to take the stroke, (b) being good conductors, and (c) being buried in the earth to dissipate the charge. Well-installed lightning rods on a building offer a "cone of protection" spreading from the tip of each rod to a circular base on the ground that is equal in radius to the height of the rod. In 1885, lightning rods were installed on the Washington Monument to save this massive stone obelisk from being chiseled-down by lightning. At George Washington's homeplace, Mount Vernon, in Virginia, lightning rods stand guard over many of the old and historic trees on the place. The rocket launching gantries at Cape Kennedy are well protected with rods. But the safety offered by man-made rods cannot be found under nature's so-called lightning rods—trees. Their height attracts lightning, and they are better conductors than air. But compared to many *other* things their wood is a poor conductor, which is why any stroke it has attracted with its height may jump to any better conductor nearby—such as you.

With more people killed by lightning every year, the soundest advice to keep you from joining them is to retire to your home, hotel, clubhouse or other available building if you are in the open *when you see a storm approaching*. Get indoors before the storm arrives. This applies, of course, to people for whom shelter is readily available — people on beaches, golf courses, in or on water, in their yards, etc. If you are miles from nowhere and your car is near at hand, retire to it. If you are really caught in the open with neither car nor building available, there's general advice depending on your surroundings. The U.S. Weather Bureau suggests that if you are near isolated trees, or trees growing along avenues, it is safest to crouch down in the open away from the trees, at a distance exceeding their height. If you are in a large body

of timber, crouch in a growth of low trees or bushes at some small distance from taller growth. In open country, away from civilization, the Weather Bureau urges that you take shelter in a cave, deep valley, canyon or at the foot of a cliff. If you are in the nightmare position of being trapped by a thunderstorm on a completely flat, open plain, lie flat on the



"Please buy my violets, sir."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

ground and hope that your diminished height will make you less attractive as a protruding conductor. Outdoors, give a wide berth to wire fences, which often provide miles of free run for sure death. Hilltops are taboo, and small, exposed shelters with nothing higher nearby can be death traps. If you want to be a human lightning rod, just carry golf clubs or a fishing pole in your hands. Get out of water and out of small boats when a thunderstorm shows. Lightning will not only favor things protruding above the water, but it will travel great distances in water. The Lightning Protection Institute recommends lightning rods and lightning arrestors on the masts and antennae of larger water craft. If you have a choice

of buildings in which to take emergency shelter, large ones are better than small ones, large metal or metal framed buildings or buildings with lightning rods are better than unprotected wood or masonry buildings. Small, isolated buildings rank last as havens.

INDOORS—whether at home or away—stay away from exterior doors, walls and windows, from chimneys (hence furnaces and fireplaces), stoves and electrical appliances. Keep your hands off the plumbing fixtures. To protect your home from being burned by lightning, nothing beats lightning rods. Outside radio and TV antennae and powerline lead-ins should have lightning arrestors attached.

Peter E. Viemeister, one of America's leading lightning authorities, says that if you are with a person who is knocked flat by lightning, do not waste time running to find outside help. Instead, he says, start at once to administer artificial respiration, either by means of hand pressure on the back or by the mouth to mouth method—and don't give up easily. If the person revives, cover him up, if you can, to prevent shock which can be as fatal as lightning. Then, and only then, make an effort to obtain outside help so that the lightning victim may receive the full and proper medical attention the case may warrant.

If you don't think all this homely, old advice is worth relearning today, the National Safety Council does. For a new report on the subject, it chose the title: "The Comeback of an Old Fashioned Killer." On the average, a square mile of land in the United States absorbs between 40 and 80 bolts of lightning each year, which brings a lot of lightning pretty close to most people. **THE END**

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If you have changed your address recently or will be moving in the near future, you should notify this magazine at once. Also be sure to notify your Post Adjutant. Fill in the blank below and mail to: Circulation Department, The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46206.

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Painful hemorrhoids?

All too often, humans who sit and stand pay the price of vertical posture. Sitting and standing combine with the force of gravity to produce extra pressure on veins and tissues in and around the rectal area. The result may be painful, itching or burning hemorrhoids.

The first thought of hemorrhoid sufferers is to relieve their pain and discomfort. However, of the products most often used for hemorrhoids, some contain no pain-killing agent at all... others have one too weak to provide necessary relief... and still others provide only lubrication.

Now at last there is a formulation which concentrates on pain. It actually has over 8 times more pain-killing power than the topical anesthetic most commonly used in hemorrhoid remedies. 8 times the power to ease the itching, pain, and burning of hemorrhoids.

The name of this product is Nupercainal. Nupercainal starts to work on contact. Provides prolonged relief from pain. Soothes and lubricates.

When you suspect you have hemorrhoids, check with your doctor. If hemorrhoids are the cause of your discomfort, chances are he'll recommend Nupercainal.

Nupercainal is available without prescription at professional pharmacies everywhere. Ask for ointment or new suppositories with free pocket-pack. (Say New-per-cane-all.)

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BERLIN'S DEATH AGONY



The victors at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate.

THE LAST BATTLE, by Cornelius Ryan. SIMON AND SCHUSTER, NEW YORK, N.Y., \$7.50.

By May 7, 1945, WW2 was all over in Europe. The unconditional surrender terms had been accepted and signed by what remained of Germany's official Government. The slow, torturous death of that Government, centered in Berlin, and the sufferings of Berlin's besieged citizenry are the subjects of Mr. Ryan's moving book.

Ryan breaks his study of "The Last Battle" into five parts and uses the literary device of jumping from one combatant's headquarters to another to describe the Allied race for Berlin. Then Eisenhower decided that Berlin itself was no longer militarily important, a decision based in great part, according to the book, on faulty information about a National Redoubt in Bavaria to which he believed Hitler and the German Government had retreated. The Western Allies halted forces at the Elbe and only the Russians moved forward for the kill.

The terror among Berlin's citizens and soldiers as Russian conquest became a certainty is grimly recorded. Hour by hour, day by day, for three weeks, the inadequate defenses of the city crumbled before the massive Russian assault, launched April 16, 1945. Amazingly, no preparations had been made to defend the city. Col. Gen. Gotthard Heinrici, commander of Germany's Eastern Front Army Group, made his plans, readied what forces he had and prepared to fight. But he knew it could be only a delaying action. Heinrici sought to fight the battle outside the city limits, thus sparing Berlin's citizens—estimated as of March 1945 to be about 2,700,000, of whom over 2,000,000 were women. Hitler interfered and the battle was fought street by street, house by house. The number of civilians killed in the last battle is estimated at around 100,000.

But even as the fighting closes in, it is the struggle to go on living that impresses the reader. With the guns less than 35 miles away, Berlin's factories continued to turn out war materials, her women still went shopping between shellings and the famous Berlin zoo remained open until the power to pump water for the animals was turned off on April 20. On the 22nd, the city's 100-year-old telegraph office closed down for the first time in its history. Near the end, Berlin's papers stopped publishing and the police were recruited for the Army or Home Guard, leaving the city unprotected from looters and vandals. But through all of 1945 two services continued, the maintenance of records in the weather station in Potsdam and production at 11 of Berlin's 17 breweries.

In the midst of battle, General Weidling's "lost" 56th Panzer Corps re-established contact with its parent Ninth Army by using a still operating public telephone located on the outskirts of Berlin. The link-up of what remained of General Busse's Ninth Army—40,000 out of 200,000 men—with General Wenck's Twelfth Army kept a route open to the West. Over 100,000 men from the two armies crossed to the West, to be taken by the Americans. GSH

Jacques-Yves Cousteau's World Without Sun, edited by James Dugan. HARPER & ROW, NEW YORK, N.Y., \$10.

The month-long experiences of Captain Cousteau and five Oceanauts living in an underwater colony on the sea floor is recaptured in 205 pages of colored and black-and-white photos and text.

In Honored Glory, the Story of Arlington, by Peter Andrews. G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS, NEW YORK, N.Y., \$5.95.

An interesting, fast paced account of the history of Arlington National Cemetery,

with sections on regulations for burial, types of military funerals and brief biographies of some of the famous people buried there.

The Art Of Survival, by Cord Christian Troebst. DOUBLEDAY & CO., GARDEN CITY, N.Y., \$5.95.

Types of disasters and the way to prepare for them or survive them are explained. Among the disasters considered are: survival in the desert, at sea, in the snow, in the tropics and during and after a plane crash.

Your Wonderful Baby, by Willis J. Potts. M.D. RAND McNALLY & CO., CHICAGO, ILL., \$4.95.

A common-sense approach to just about all the problems and pleasures that will confront you from the day you bring your new baby home from the hospital until the youngster is well on the way to maturity.

East-West Trade and United States Policy, by Mose L. Harvey. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS, N.Y., N.Y., \$2.50 when ordered from N.A.M. International Division, 277 Park Ave., N.Y.

A review of our present policies regarding trade with communist nations, and how controlled trade can affect and influence the cold war.

How To Be Rich, by J. Paul Getty. PLAYBOY PRESS, CHICAGO, ILL., \$5.

One of the world's richest men, a firm believer in the free-enterprise system, tells how he made his own fortune and how others can go about making theirs today.

Hitler Moves East—1911-1943, by Paul Carell. LITTLE, BROWN AND CO., BOSTON, MASS., \$10.

The story of the desperate and tragic German-Russian campaign of June 22, 1941, to January 31, 1943, translated from the original work in German. Detailing the day by day combat, the book holds special interest for students of military strategy.

I Can Tell It Now, edited by David Brown and W. Richard Bruner. E. P. DUTTON & CO., INC., \$5.95.

A collection of stories from 1939 to 1964 by foreign correspondents who are members of the Overseas Press Club, on the occasion of that organization's 25th anniversary.

Equal Justice Under Law, The Supreme Court in American Life. THE FOUNDATION OF THE FEDERAL BAR ASSOCIATION, WASHINGTON, D.C., \$2.75, paperback, \$1.25.

The story of the U.S. Supreme Court in text and photos, including brief recountings of many of the Court's famous cases from its earliest days to contemporary times.

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making the world an exciting place. Visitors can view such diverse attractions as a cosmic ray spark chamber, equipment used in the latest explorations beneath the sea and one of the wooden dog sledges that took Robert E. Peary to the North Pole in 1909. Also shown are breath-taking collections of nature photographs in color: a hungry shark on the prowl in the blue ocean, long-legged giraffes nibbling leaves from the tops of African trees and a delicate yellow hummingbird motionless in mid-air. Opened in 1964, Explorers' Hall drew half a million visitors its first year.



"I don't care who's batting next! He's getting too old for me to take to the ladies' room."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

Washington's new sidewalk cafes, authorized by law since the last Legion convention, add a Parisian note to a city that already bears a first-cousin resemblance to Paris. The city's many broad, tree-lined avenues and patches of green park, designed before 1800 by Parisian Maj. Pierre L'Enfant, now please the eye with new flowers planted as a result of the First Lady's campaign to beautify the nation's capital. The outdoor cafes are a pleasant place to rest tired feet after sightseeing. Moderate prices prevail at three mid-downtown outdoor cafes: Basins at 14th and Pennsylvania Ave., which has a varied menu and some Jewish specialties; Chez Francois on Connecticut Ave. between H and I Streets and Le Gourmet at 17th and K Streets, N.W., both of which specialize in French cuisine.

Washington is a cosmopolitan world center and a popular new tourist attraction reflects its international flavor. The Islamic Center at 2551 Massachusetts

Ave., along Embassy Row, offers a chance to explore an exquisite Moslem mosque. The mosque's graceful minaret rises 160 feet skyward. From it the muezzin sounds the call to prayer in the traditional manner. Rich Persian rugs from Iran, a carved ivory and ebony inlaid pulpit and an ornate copper chandelier are among its glories. The mosque, a cloister and a library for the study of Islamic Culture comprise the Center. Ambassadors from Islamic countries serve on the Center's Board of Governors.

The New National Catholic Shrine at 4th and Michigan Ave., N.E., adjacent to Catholic University, is one of the world's largest churches. An edifice of surpassing grandeur, dedicated in 1959, the National Shrine is currently much in the news as the site of the coming marriage of the President's daughter, Luci. Some idea of its dimensions can be gained by giving just one statistic: the center panel of a single one of its stained glass triple windows, the Our Lady Of Mercy Window, is 29 feet high by seven and a half feet wide. The vast and awe-inspiring church attracts streams of pilgrims from all over the globe. It is about a 25-minute drive by cab or car from downtown Washington to the Shrine.

WASHINGTON has many historic places of worship. Some new things at the National Cathedral on Mount St. Alban deserve notice. After 59 years, the National Cathedral is still in the process of construction. Each day, Gothic stone carvers, a dying breed, patiently chisel away. Target date for completion of the Cathedral is 1985. Legionnaires who served in World War I may find it of special interest because the tomb of the then Commander in Chief, President Woodrow Wilson, holds a place of honor. The War Memorial Chapel contains the name of every American serviceman known to have died in any war. A new tapestry, worked on by 76 highly-skilled women from every state, will be hung shortly before the Legion convention. Stained glass windows, many new since the last convention, depict historic events ranging from Paul Revere's ride to the amphibious landings of the Second World War. Located at Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenues, N.W., the Cathedral is about 15 minutes by cab or car from downtown Washington.

Legionnaires who enjoy naval history will find the Truxtun-Decatur House, on Lafayette Square at 16th and H Streets, N.W., rewarding. Named for two famous Commodores, Thomas Truxtun and Stephen Decatur, who occupied it

(Continued on page 50)

Shrinks Hemorrhoids New Way Without Surgery Stops Itch - Relieves Pain

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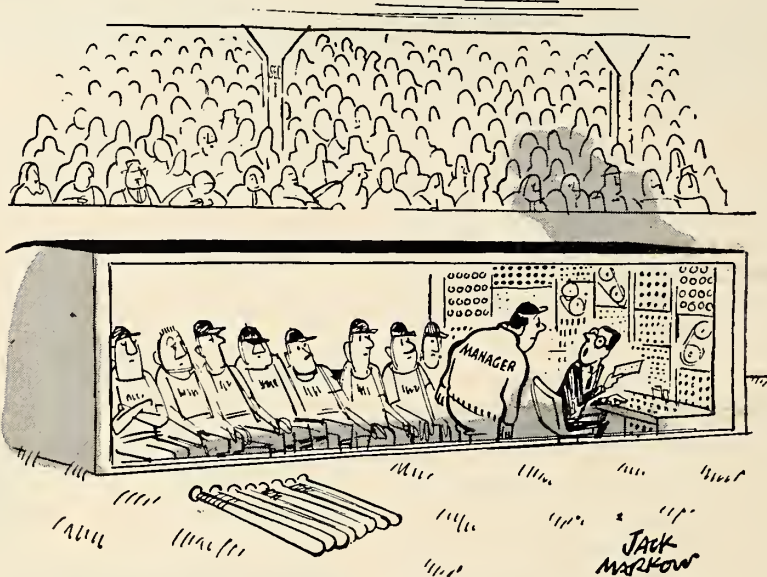
A NEW LOOK AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

(Continued from page 49)

in the early days of the Republic, the historic home was at one time the next door neighbor of the President's Mansion as the White House was then called. Many Presidents have been entertained in the early Federal period mansion. Opened to the public since the last Legion convention, Truxtun-Decatur House is filled with belongings and relics of the career of Stephen Decatur, whose exploits against the Barbary pirates were termed "the most daring acts of the age" and have inspired many a book and swashbuckling movie. Immediately behind the mansion is the Truxtun-Decatur Naval Museum, often overlooked. The Truxtun-Decatur

enjoy seeing Ham, the chimp made famous for his space-capsule voyage down the Atlantic missile range, or Tomoka, the baby gorilla, famous as the second gorilla born and reared in the United States.

OPENED IN 1965, the National Zoo's enchanting Bird House and Flight Cage is entered on a 38-yard-long bridge. Passing through glass doors, the visitor strolls among waterfalls, boulders and the pools of an artificial rain forest with no physical barrier between himself and hundreds of rare and exotic birds from every corner of the globe. The center of the Flight Cage is 90 feet high.



"Replace your pitcher with Lefty O'Toole and put in Rocky Klimmft as defensive left fielder, and you'll win 6 to 5 in 12 innings."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

House is open weekdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Museum is open daily except Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The new, expanded quarters of the National Historical Wax Museum at 5th and K Streets, N.W. (formerly the site of Washington's historic central market), has made it possible to present tableaux from Lief Ericson's landing on American soil in 1000 A.D. to Major White's 20th century "walk in space." Well done, these tableaux represent well-documented historical events. Admission is \$1 for adults, 60¢ for children.

The new Queen of the National Zoo, on Connecticut Ave., is the rare and beautiful white tigress "Mohini," from India. Baby elephants from India; sure-footed mountain goats from Greece, and Smokey the Bear, who serves as the inspiration for the National Forest Service's fire warning posters, are other National Zoo celebrities. You might also

In 1966, another new attraction, the Deer Park, was added to the Zoo. Five acres of sylvan ground, plus frame shelter houses that any non-deer would be glad to have as a summer cottage in the mountains, are home to herds of deer, including the Pere David's deer of China, which no longer exists in the wild state anywhere in the world. Infrared lamps provide warmth on chilly days. A brief five-minute drive from downtown Washington, the National Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Bureau of Printing and Engraving, at 14th & C Streets, N.W., has a new, free, streamlined tour. Formerly, visitors were herded in groups along narrow catwalks. Now, glass-enclosed galleries, plus tape-recorded explanations of what you're seeing, permit you to see a billion and a half dollars in legal U.S. currency being printed and allow you to take the tour at your own pace.

Many new hotels, restaurants and places of amusement have been added to Washington since the last convention. Newest hotel is the palatial Washington Hilton on Connecticut Ave. The Executive House, Gramercy Inn and the International Inn are also outstanding among new hostleries. The already-enormous Shoreham has added a 100-room motor inn and a huge swimming pool. It added the Regency ballroom in late 1964, and its famous outdoor terrace features performances by big name stars.

The Sheraton Park has completed a \$10 million building program. New are a balconied motor inn, striking bars, restaurants and ballrooms. At its gala opening, Washington Redskin football players punted and passed footballs to show the vastness of the convention room. Among the restaurants is The Cheshire Cheese, an Olde English Beefe House, open hearth fireplace and all. A house specialty is a "yard of beer" served in yard-long glasses that sit in oaken stands and are served up by costumed waitresses. For the less thirsty, half-yards of beer are available at smaller table stands.

At many of Washington's hotels, like the Hay-Adams, which has a staff of 123 to serve 200 guests and overlooks The White House, the visitor is likely to meet Washington VIP's.

So many new restaurants have come to town since the Legion last met in Washington that it's hard to name them all. Trader Vic's in the Statler Hotel offers Polynesian specialties, while Paul Young's is lavishly continental. Most of the major hotels have opened or added new cafes since 1954. There are, of course, many old favorites: Hogate's, O'Donnell's, Harvey's, the Occidental, Parchey's and Duke Ziebert's. A comprehensive survey of restaurants is available from the Washington Convention and Visitor's Bureau, just a few doors down K Street from the Legion's Washington Headquarters at 1608 K Street, N.W., diagonally across from the Statler Hotel.

FOR SPORTS FANS, Washington has a major league baseball club, the "new" Senators, and the beautiful D.C. stadium. August 26-28, the Cleveland Indians will be in town.

For theatergoers, the Arena Stage, at 6th and M Streets, S.W., in the Southwest Redevelopment section is new, and the National Theater, where many plays come for pre-Broadway runs, has been extensively remodeled. In nearby suburban Maryland, the Shady Grove Theater at Gaithersburg, 35 minutes from downtown Washington, offers plays by big-name stars in a huge tent. Summer theaters around Washington sprout like mushrooms. The Olney Theater, about a

50-minute drive from downtown Washington, in Olney, Md., is nationally known.

Some old things in Washington are "new" in the sense that out of town visitors are not likely to know about them. The Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, a small but unique national park in the northeastern part of the District of Columbia, is a good example. Located at Kenilworth Ave., N.E., about 35 minutes from downtown Washington, the Gardens are open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no admission charge. The Aquatic Gardens park contains the world's largest collection of flowering water plants. On a warm summer day, the eye is dazzled by acres of blossoms like the red lotus of China, by scarlet, cream, apricot, black, royal purple, orange or pink-tipped petals. The Egyptian lotus, which legend says Cleopatra wore in her hair to lure Mark Antony, is represented in the gardens. So is the tiny snow white nymphae pygmy lotus of Siberia and the giant Victoria Regia lily of South America, whose heavy green pads are six feet across. The Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens were much admired by Presidents Hoover and Coolidge and Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, among others.

There are a good many other old things that are "new" to visitors because they are little known. The Interior Department Museum, for instance, covers everything from coal mining to Indians. It is between 18th and 19th Streets, N.W., and C Street, N.W., and is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Commerce Department at 14th and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., offers a small but interesting aquarium. It is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. John F. Kennedy's collection of model ships is on display at the Navy Yard. There's even an interesting "inside" story to the Washington Monument. Most visitors to the Monument simply wait their turn to ride to the top in the elevator, admire the eight different panoramic views of the city offered—and then ride down again.

SHOULD YOU FEEL like walking down the 898 steps of the Washington Monument, you'll have the chance to see 189 ornately-carved stones donated by various states, patriotic societies and foreign countries. They were given over a span of nearly three-quarters of a century. Donors include a locomotive works in Philadelphia, "the ladies of Lowell, Mass.", the Sons of Temperance of Pennsylvania, and even a stone from once-remote China which states that "Washington was a remarkable man" and rhetorically asks: "Can anyone fail to pronounce Washington peerless?" These ornate stones mirror a bygone era.

Some things that you can see in Washington are a bit surprising. Take the Folger Shakespeare Library. The Library contains more First Folios of Shakespeare's work than are to be found in the British Museum. It has an authentic life-sized theater of the era of Queen Elizabeth I. Among its collections are hundreds of medieval books and manuscripts, some worth nearly \$1 million each! The library was founded by Henry Folger, who, as a schoolboy, was fascinated by the study of Shakespeare. Later, Folger became vastly rich in the oil business. He did not forget his youthful enthusiasm for the Bard, and began



THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

collecting Shakespearean and Medieval manuscripts. The library is his gift to the nation. It is at 201 E. Capital St. and is open daily, free of charge, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Capitol Hill, of course, is the classic "old" attraction. Watching Congress in session can be fascinating if you happen to attend on a day when something important is up for debate. The Washington papers usually report what's on the agenda.

Statuary Hall in the Capitol contains statues of the notables of American history. Each state is permitted to send the statues of two great persons. The famous marble head of Lincoln sculpted by Gutzon Borglum adorns the Rotunda. Paintings of eight historic events from the Landing of Columbus by John Vanderlyn to the Signing of the Declaration of Independence by John Trumbull are also in the Rotunda.

The "whispering chamber," where the old House of Representatives used to meet, is notable for its amazing acoustics. A whisper can be heard clearly across the cavernous room. According to Capitol Hill legend, the accidental overhearing of many whispered confidences so disconcerted the House that

it moved out at the earliest opportunity.

The Supreme Court Building and the Library of Congress are also on Capitol Hill and attract many visitors. Moving down Pennsylvania Ave. a few blocks, the route taken by the Presidential Inaugural Parades, one nears the National Archives Building. It is on Constitution Ave. between 7th and 9th Streets N.W., and is open Mon. to Sat. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Sun. from 1 p.m. to 10 p.m. There, in an impressive setting, one can view the basic charters of American Freedom: The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.

A block from the National Archives at 9th & Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., is the Department of Justice Building, where the FBI offers free tours through its Crime Laboratories. The latest scientific techniques for the war on the underworld are explained. A collection of murderous weapons confiscated from notable racketeers by the G-men is shown on the tour.

Seeing the "standard" tourist sites of Washington takes one to the nation's best-known edifices: a tour of the White House; visiting George Washington's white-columned home, Mount Vernon; a pilgrimage to the majestic Lincoln Memorial and to the dignified simplicity of the Jefferson Memorial. The green hills of Arlington National Cemetery are the hallowed resting place of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, guarded day and night by sentries. President Kennedy's grave is at Arlington, just below the Lee-Custis Mansion, once the home of Robert E. Lee. A gracious ante-bellum home, authentically restored, and operated by the National Park Service, the Lee-Custis Mansion offers a magnificent view of the city below.

GRAY LINE TOURS are available during the day, as well as at night, while for Legionnaires who arrive by car or have transportation, there are many interesting side trips within a short distance of Washington. Baltimore's Fort McHenry is only 30 miles away. The Naval Academy at Annapolis is about the same distance. At Charlottesville, Va., Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello; James Monroe's home, Ash Lawn, and Mitchie Tavern, associated with Patrick Henry, offer insight into American history. Alexandria, Va., just across the Potomac from Washington, has a "walking tour" which includes many historic buildings, several associated with George Washington. Famous old Gadsby Tavern, now a Legion Post in Alexandria, Va., is well worth a visit.

Few cities offer such a rich variety of things to see and do as Washington, D.C. Your chief problem will be how to take it all in.

THE END

Alaska's Monster Mystery Fish

TO CATCH the largest freshwater fish in the world, you may have to go to Alaska. Responsible observers have been reporting a huge, unclassified species discovered in Lake Iliamna on the Alaskan Peninsula. A few anglers have tried to catch them but no tackle has been strong enough. One of the fish snapped a stainless steel aircraft cable being used as a fishing line!

Pilots have spotted them while flying over the lake at a small, unnamed horseshoe-shaped island midway in the 25-mile expanse of water between Big Mountain on the south shore and the town of Iliamna on the far side. The time invariably has been late September or early October when, biologists assume, they come into the shallows to spawn. Seen quite clearly, often from altitudes of only 100 feet, the fish resemble no known species. They have wide, blunt heads and are between 15 and 20 feet long. Weight is estimated as over five tons! Color is that of weathered aluminum.

They aren't beluga or killer whales because their tails are vertical, not horizontal like those of whales, and they don't surface to breathe. This latter fact also eliminates the seal and walrus. They aren't ling cod which are sleek and black. Nor do they have the shape or color of a sturgeon or king-size lake trout. Some biologists believe they may be related to the shark.

The neighboring Aleut Indians have long known about the fish, but their accounts have been discounted as superstition until recently. When canoeing, they carefully avoid the horseshoe island in Iliamna. The lake itself has room for a monster species. It is 80 miles long and, in places, its depth has never been measured. In Pile Bay a sounding lead dropped to 1,350 feet and then ran out of line.

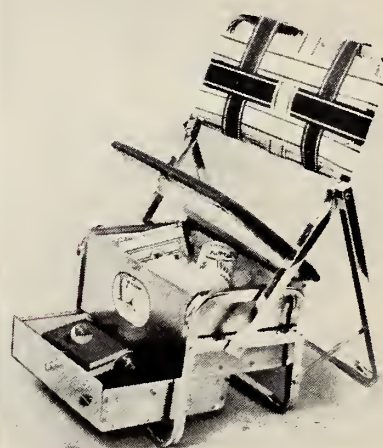
The latest theory is that the fish is a species, probably prehistoric, that has become landlocked by a shifting of Alaska's volcanic surface, like the common landlocked salmon. And perhaps it has been influenced by the same Alaskan magic ingredient which has made the grizzly bear grow into a species so huge it must be classified separately as the brown bear, and maybe thereby it has become the world's largest freshwater fish. No specimens have yet been taken, but attempts are continuing to be made by interested biologists.

In any case, should you have an opportunity to go fishing in Lake Iliamna, we can't advise you what tackle to use.

IF YOU'RE AN ANGLER who is record bent, and you've boated a husky fish you think might topple the current champ, here's a warning from the experts: stop fishing, head for the dock and get it weighed and certified as soon as possible. A fish loses weight rapidly by water evaporation when removed from the water, especially in hot weather. Even on the way in, keep it immersed in water, if possible.

TWO NEW COLOR MOVIES in 16-mm. sound are available for loan to clubs, schools, etc. One is "Outboard Camping," showing a family of four exploring New York's Finger Lakes region by outboard motorboat complete with the latest camping gear. The other is "Skiing Is Believing," which shows close-up views of this sport seldom seen by an audience, including sequences in slow motion. Write: Kiekhaefer Corp., Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

NEW FISHERMAN'S CHAIR is also an insulated ice chest and tackle box. Back swings up to form carrying handle with ice chest and tackle drawer in upright position,



Handy chair, ice chest and tackle box.

then folds down for storage in a car trunk. Cushioned seat and curved back are vinyl covered. Made of heavy gauge aluminum, its weight is 7 lbs. Price: \$21.95 plus \$2 postage from Franzen Gifts, Flanagan, Ill.

POLISHING METAL LURES is a time-consuming job that spares no angler except Roy Axt of Portland, Ore., he says. One night, while he was scrubbing away, his wife suggested he try the dip-and-rinse cleaner she used for the silver. He did, and it worked. Just dip it and rinse it, like the name says.

NEW BOOKLET, To Cast A Fly, promises to make aces out of duffers. It's a step-by-step guide which skips nothing and covers every important detail about tackle, theory and technique, including the *double-haul* which will increase your range 30%. Price: 50¢ from Scientific Anglers, Box C-95, Midland, Mich. 48640.

THE SECRET WEAPON for outdoorsmen, according to Al Geissler, APO San Francisco, is an extra pair of cotton combat boot laces. Put slip loops in them and they'll serve as slings for carrying small game; use them to tie a deer's legs together for portage; they'll work as emergency tent tie-

downs; you can use them as a tourniquet or to tie splints in case of an accident. You'll find many other uses, especially if you're a camper.

FOR LAZY FISHERMEN, Al Pfeifle of Philip, S.D., has invented a rod holder and horn; when the fish bites, the horn blows. Called *Signa Bite*, it's metal, 18" long, red and white with a chrome horn which can be adjusted to the amount of pull necessary to turn it on. Price is \$6, including postage, from Pfeifle at the Pioneer-Review, P.O. Box 70, Philip, S.D. 57567.

TENTS with sewn-in floors keep out insects, snakes and dampness, but the cloth floors can easily be torn by sharp sticks and rocks. As a precaution, advise tent makers, carry in your camping duffel a piece of old carpet and, on rough terrain, erect your tent on top of it. It also provides insulation from cold ground.

GOOD SHOTS at game with a .22 rifle are missed because the hunter doesn't realize his magazine is empty, writes S. McGinty of Los Angeles, who shoots a pump-action. So he painted the brass end of his magazine rod bright red to make it instantly noticeable through the open port. This idea will work for lever-actions and bolt-actions, too; just paint the top of the cartridge follower in the magazine.

GOT A FISH POND with too many weeds? A new chemical called *Aquathol*, made by Pennsalt Chemicals Corp., will kill them but not harm the fish. Comes in granular or liquid form. Apply it directly, or spray it. At recommended dosages, some weeds die immediately on contact; others take from two to four weeks.

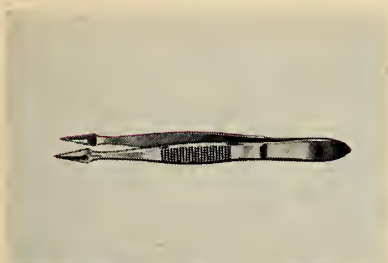
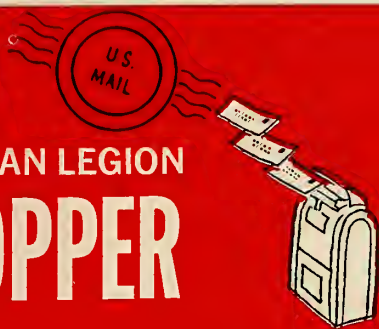
YOUR TACKLE BOX may have had its spring overhaul, but maybe you've forgotten the cod liver oil, writes Jim Kurka of Fairfield, Iowa. It'll often save the day when finicky fish won't cooperate. Dip your fly in it, or soak a tuft of cotton in it and hang it on the rear hook of your bass lure. When a lunker gets a snootful of it, watch out!

THE HOTTEST FISHING LURES last year were the soft plastic worms and eels, and they undoubtedly will be this season, also, report veteran anglers. And blue seems the best color. Reason? Soft lures have more lifelike action and feel to a fish. But no one can explain why fish prefer blue!

FOR STILL FISHING, the small plastic squeeze-containers that look like lemons or limes and are sold in all groceries, make excellent bobbers, suggests Vernon Rodgers of Jonestown, Pennsylvania. The line can be looped around the cap. The lemon color is especially easy to see on the water.

If you have a helpful idea for this feature send it in. If we can use it we'll pay you \$5.00. However, we cannot acknowledge, return, or enter into correspondence concerning contributions. Address: Outdoor Editor, The American Legion Magazine, 720 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10019.

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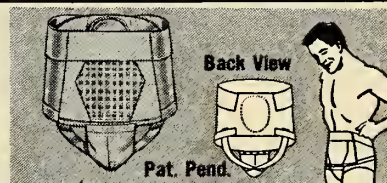


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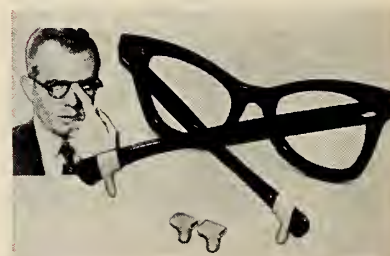
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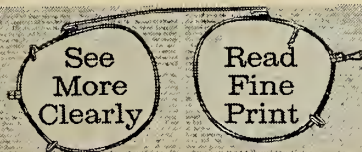
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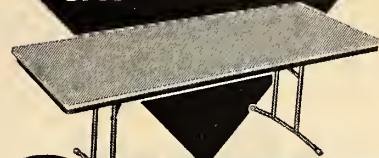
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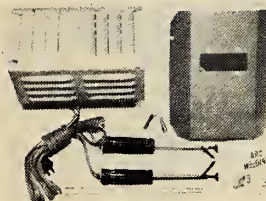


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1966 heavy duty welder, works on 110 volt house current. Generates up to 10,000 degrees of heat. Ready to use, comes with 1/16 & 1/8" welding and brazing rods and welding helmet. Money back in 10 days if not satisfied. Five year repair or replacement guarantee. Send \$2.00, pay \$12.95 plus COD and postage when delivered, or send \$14.95 and we pay postage. Over 500,000 now in use. MADE IN USA. Direct from factory.
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DOUBLE \$6⁹⁵

RIGHT OR LEFT SIDE
STILL \$4⁹⁵
ONLY NO FITTING REQUIRED

Enclose 25¢ Postage

Now! NO LACES!
Now! PROTECTIVE BACK FLAP!
Now! INSTANT PULL-STRAP ADJUSTMENT!

Same strong, form-fitting washable support for reducible inguinal hernia, but with new pull-straps for easy, instant adjustment. Protective back flap . . . no laces. Snaps up in front. Adjustable leg strap. Soft, flat groin pad to close opening in inguinal canal. No steel or leather bands. Unexcelled for comfort. Invisible even under light clothing. Also used as an after-operation support.

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Money-Back Guarantee—if you don't get relief, return garment postpaid in 30 days for refund.

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Please send . . . RUPTURE-EASERS by return mail.

Right Side ☐ \$4.95 Measure around low-
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Double ☐ \$6.95 men is _____ INCHES

Enclosed is: ☐ Money Order Check for \$_____
Enclose 25c for postage
(Note: Be Sure to give Size and Side when ordering)

Name _____
Address _____
City & State _____ Zip _____

PARTING SHOTS



"Believe me, dear, I wouldn't do it if it wasn't for the team!"

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

NEVER SATISFIED

A man staying at a boarding house complained to the landlady about the one sandwich she used to fix for his lunch. It was good, he admitted, but not enough of it. Complying with his request, she made two sandwiches the following day. But still he complained. On succeeding days she put three, four, five and even six sandwiches in his lunch box. Still, the answer was always the same. "It's delicious," the boarder would say, "but not enough of it."

The landlady then baked a special loaf of bread four feet long, sliced it down the middle and filled it with all sorts of meats, vegetables and dressings. She wrapped it and could hardly wait for the end of the day when her boarder would return home. When he finally did, the landlady asked triumphantly, "Well? How was the lunch today?"

"Wonderful," replied the boarder. "But I see you're back to one sandwich again!"

NICK KOZMENIUK

NAME GAME

Two cowboys met in a bar.

"Just call me Tex," said one.

"You from Texas?" asked the other.

"No," said the first. "I'm from Maryland, but who wants to be called Mary?"

PHILIP THOMAS

"IT HELPS"

Turning to her husband after the last guest had departed, the wife exclaimed, "I simply can't understand you. Why do you always insist on sitting on the piano stool whenever we entertain. Everyone knows that you can't play a note!"

"I know it, dear. And as long as I'm sitting there, no one else can play either!"

LUCILLE J. GOODYEAR

AFTER-DINNER DOLDRUMS

The bore drones on, and I squirm and yawn

As my weary spirits sink.

And I needn't glance at my watch to know

It's earlier than I think!

GEORGIE STARBUCK GALBRAITH

OFF THE HOOK!

Many parents are thankful for the Modern Math. It means the kids will never learn of their ignorance of the old math.

W. N. RIEGER

AND I'LL NOT WELSH

Rabbit or rarebit,

I really don't care;

If you call it the former

I'll not turn a hare.

MARK MORROW

ABSENCE NOTED

About the only way the groom can get any attention at a wedding is to not show up.

S. S. BIDDLE

PARTY LINES

One can easily tell by the litter and mess That the party they threw was a signal success:

Receptacles heaping with ashes and cores, And splatters from liquids on tables and floors,

And dishes all over, an overturned chair, And fragments of food on the rugs everywhere.

Our host and our hostess have vividly shown. . . .

When they throw a party, it really looks thrown.

D. E. TWIGGS

ANIMAL TALK

Beatnik: A cat that is too chicken to get into the old rat race.

RAMON A. USURY, JR.

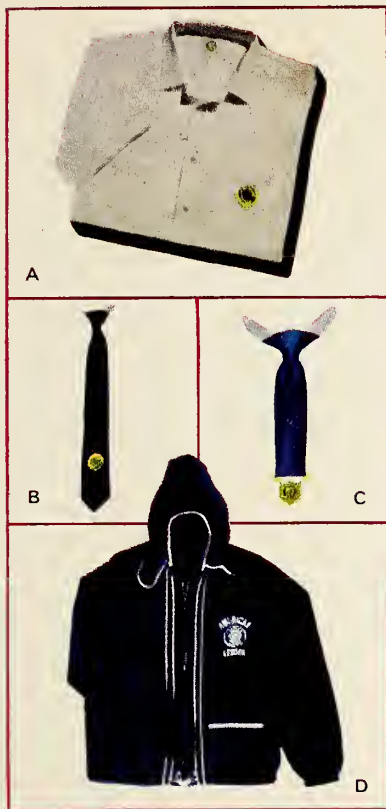


"I've decided to go on to graduate school, Pop."

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE

New and Popular Items!

FROM NATIONAL EMBLEM SALES, THE AMERICAN LEGION



Alternate Uniform

Navy Blue Blazer and Grey Trousers approved for wear on all occasions.

BLAZER—100% all wool flannel or a lightweight tropical, 55% dacron, 45% wool. Gold buttons, silk embroidered emblem on outside pocket. Sizes 36 to 50* in short, regular, long, extra-long and stout (portly). Give weight, height, chest, and suit size when ordering blazers.

All wool flannel (No. 77000) or lightweight tropical (No. 77150) **\$26.50**

TROUSERS—All wool worsted regular weight (No. 77100) or 55% dacron, 45% wool lightweight tropical (No. 77050). Unfinished bottoms. Sizes 29 to 46* in short, regular and longs. In ordering give waist size and height.

Trousers **\$11.95**

*For special size blazers or grey trousers, add \$3.00 service charge and allow 5 weeks delivery.

A. BLAZER SHIRT. Short Sleeve Sport or Dress—White only. Wash 'N Wear 65% Dacron 35% Cotton material. Embroidered emblem on pocket. Sizes: Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large. (No. 70360) **\$3.95**

B. TIES. New dacron blended button down. Regular in Blue (No. 70291) or Gold (No. 70292) or New Clip-on Ready-tied in Blue (No. 70293) or Gold (No. 70294) . **\$1.25**

C. BOB-TAIL TIE. Clip on satin ribbon, pre-tied shortly with gold plated emblem. Blue (No. 70289) or Gold (No. 70290) **\$1.50**

D. NYLON COACH JACKET. Hidden hood in zipper collar. Navy with white braid trim. Small, medium, large, Extra Large (No. 70238) **\$8.50**



Regular Uniform

Crease and stain resistant, year-round, 14-ounce nylon blend gabardine with 1/2 inch gold stripe. Must be dry cleaned.

JACKET. Eisenhower style with elastic waist insert. Give height, chest and waist measurements. Chest sizes 36-46 in short, regular, long and stout (portly) from stock.

All other sizes add \$6.00 and allow 5 weeks for delivery.*
No. 70201 **\$21.50**

TROUSERS. Zipper fly-unfinished bottoms. Give your height and waist size. Waist 29-46 from stock.

All other sizes add \$6.00 with 5 weeks for delivery.*
No. 70102 **\$12.95**

*Extra large size jackets and trousers not returnable.

UNIFORM SHIRTS of pre-shrunk broadcloth in long or short sleeves;

Regulation Style	Regulation Style
Long Sleeves	Short Sleeves

32 to 35, Neck half-sizes 14 to 18.	• Quarter length sleeves and • sport collar in small, medium, large and extra large.
--	---

White No. 70302 \$4.85	White No. 70406 \$4.50
Blue No. 70156 4.95	Blue No. 70410 4.75

SOX. Black nylon ribbed stretch.
No. 70470 . Each **\$0.55**; two pairs for **\$1.00**

On all orders under \$3.00,
add 25c postage and handling



E. Jeweled Flag Pin

Sparkling colored stones set in yellow gold metal outlines a Flag for full fashion wear on all occasions. No. 80096 **\$1.75**

F. Enameled Flag.

Die struck heavy rhodium finished with baked enamel Flag. Jewelers quality for lifetime wear. Available with nail and clutch back (No. 80099); Pin and safety catch (No. 80098); or Ringed charm (No. 80097) **\$1.50**

G. Presentation Set. Ideal for home or office. A specially designed set, offered as a part of The American Legion's "OPERATION SHOW YOUR COLORS." Printed rayon 8 x 12" Flag, golden fringe with cord and tassels, mounted on a vacuum-gold plated wood staff with spear, on heavy base. Gift boxed. No. 72880 **\$2.50**



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To Winston smokers, it's still "like a cigarette should."
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you're missing out on the best taste in filter cigarettes.

**So change to Winston and change
for good—for good taste.**